The Daily and Weekly Commercial—

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII.—NO. 28. WEEKLY EDITION. MAY 20, 1876.

The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, No. 70 Fifth Avenue.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 5 cents; delivered by carriers (per week) 15 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00, postage prepaid.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

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WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11, 1876.

Democrats in the Departments to be Ousted.

In the different executive departments an investigation is being quietly made into the antecedents of the employees of doubtful political faith. This is in view of the reductions in the *personnel* of the executive branch of the Government, as contemplated in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriations Bill. It is proposed, should that bill in its present or even in a modified form, become a law, to begin the reductions by displacing all clerks who are not pronounced Republicans. There are a number of persons in the departments who were appointed during the administrations of Buchanan and Johnson, who went with the Liberal tangent in 1872. These will be chosen first. It is stated that the supply of this class will be about enough to meet the demands of these reductions.

Blaine's Maryland Letter.

A letter received from Frederick, Maryland, speaking of the Blaine letter, in part read at the recent Republican Convention at that place, states that the letter since published is quite different from the one heard there. The letter as read stated that "circumstances have arisen which render a pronounced delegation from Maryland or Pennsylvania at this time." There was nothing about "a very persistent attempt to throw mud at me." This discrepancy is a subject of considerable comment, and the friends of Mr. Blaine are fearful that the effect will be prejudicial, on the grounds that popular reverence for the office may be offended at the wide deviations in his case from the time-honored maxim that the office should seek the man and not the man the office.

Scalps of Doorkeeper and Clerk Called For.

Great dissatisfaction is now being expressed among the Democrats with Fitzhugh, their Doorkeeper, and Adams, their Clerk. The resignations of both, it is said, would be acceptable.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 12, 1876.

Opposition to Logan's Nomination.

There are signs of opposition to the nomination of Logan to succeed Judge McCandless, emanating from Pittsburgh. The strength of Judge Ketchum is on the increase. The President said in conversation that he did not wish to make the appointment on political considerations, which might be construed as inimical to the interest of Ketchum. The judicial experience of the latter is unquestioned. He is also recommended by the entire region which he represents, and also by the influential Republicans of the State, official and otherwise.

A Recess Talked of.

There is some talk of a recess of Congress from June 10th to July 1st, to enable members to attend the conventions at Cincinnati and St. Louis.

The Blaine Investigation.

The parties summoned to appear before the Judiciary Committee in the investigation of the connection of Mr. Blaine with the $64,000 stock transactions in the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad, are in the city. Judging from what they state, the investigation will be brief, and Mr. Blaine's exoneration complete. Rollins has stated that Harrison merely misapprehended his meaning, and that what he stated had no reference to Mr. Blaine.

The Blackballing of Bristow

by the Union League Club of New York on admission to membership, has sadly demoralized the friends of the Secretary, they alleging that it was actuated by personal malevolence and the whisky ring influence. Private dispatches received at the Republican headquarters here, from the Chairman of the State Committee, indicate that though a few delegates have been pronounced for him, the movement in his interest is simply desultory, and lacks cohesion.

The Health of Speaker Kerr.

It is intimated by the friends of Speaker Kerr that if his health does not improve within a reasonable time, he will resign. At the time he left this city he was hopefully able to lift the gavel. His disease is consumption. His clerk tendered his resignation to-day.

The Idiotic Report

of the House Committee on Printing is a repetition of the old charges of the *Congressional Globe* ring, which were exploded in a former effort of the same parties to get control of this branch of the Government printing. The Government Printer was not allowed to see a single page of the testimony, when outside parties were permitted to examine his books. The report closes with a resolution to make a contract for six years with the former printers of the *Globe*, in which, if carried out, a clear million profit would be taken out of the coffers of the Government.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 14, 1876.

The Dead Lock on the Consular Bill.

The Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill is still pending in Committee of Conference, without any signs of a concession on the part of the House members necessary to secure an adjustment of the wide difference existing between the two branches of Congress. This bill is recognized as the test of the spirit of the two Houses in asserting their respective views upon this important subject, as well as upon the other bills. The Democrats have put themselves so emphatically upon the record in support of reckless reduction, that for them to yield would be a fatal blow and notorious admission of their failure to even approximate the performance of their promises, but would demonstrate very clearly their utter inability to meet the requirements of the public service. The Senators maintain the position that while they favor retrenchment as a principle to govern their action in the preparation and passage of appropriations to meet the needs of the Government, they do not desire to be a party to an attempt to cripple it efficiency. Upon a very careful examination of the absolute necessities of the service, it has been found that the efficiency of every department of the executive branch of the Government would be seriously crippled by acquiescence in the bills affecting the *personnel* of the Government to the extent insisted upon by the House. It is now but forty-eight days till the end of the fiscal year, and if the House persists in asserting its position and no settlement of the points at variance is reached very soon, it will be necessary for the President to withdraw the entire diplomatic representation and consular corps from the ports and courts of the world. This would leave American interests without that protection which they need at all times on many countries, and would withhold from our commerce that service which it demands in our intercourse with foreign countries. It is ascertained that the President has this subject now under consideration. The Senate will not assent to the bill named in the form that it came from the House, so that it will be necessary for that body to back down or assume the responsibility of their ill-advised action.

Another Democrat Caught At It.

The Democratic House having so signally failed in their investigation of officials of the Republican party, have now been forced by public opinion to investigate themselves. It is now charged that the Clerk of the House, Adams, has been in laying tribute upon at least four of the persons to whom he gave appointments.

Fighting for Fitzhugh's Place.

The House Committee on Rules will tomorrow consider the case of the Doorkeeper, Fitzhugh, "the bigger man than Grant." The scramble for the succession has commenced. The principal aspirants are the Assistant Doorkeeper, Jennings, of Texas, and four others. Jennings has the lead.

The Erie Postmastership.

The controversy over the postmastership at Erie is beginning to assume formidable dimensions, and from the number of letters and petitions received at the several postoffices in the interest of Mr. Gara and his rival, General Walker, one would suppose that the Erieites are up in arms. Both are very strongly indorsed by a large number of the leading citizens of Erie. Amongst the papers is a petition signed by thirteen hundred citizens, also letters from ex-Representative Curtis and Judge Vincent and others in his support. Mr. Gara also presented a remonstrance signed by several thousand. Ex-Representative Scofield was here a few days ago for Gara.

Baker's Statement Untrue.

The statement of Baker, ex-Commissioner of Pensions, in contradiction of certain portions of the charges of Miss Sweet, is emphatically subverted by the sworn testimony and documentary proof produced by ex-Assistant Commissioner Lockey.

Blaine Riddled.

A. J. Riddle has published a card tonight, in which he takes issue with Blaine on the $64,000 bond transaction, charges him with duplicity, and produces the records of the court and letters of other parties to sustain his statements.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 15, 1876.

Complete Vindication of Mr. Blaine.

It is conceded in all quarters to-night that the testimony of Colonel Thomas A. Scott before the House Judiciary Committee to-day completely vindicated ex-Speaker Blaine, and puts a quietus upon the charge of the least misconduct in connection with the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad bond transaction; Colonel Scott said explicitly and emphatically that Mr. Blaine was never known in the transaction, and that his name was never mentioned. The result of the investigation so far has been just the reverse of what Mr. Blaine's enemies intended. In the absence of the testimony given to-day, the charge might have been repeated to the ex-Speaker's detriment; but now that the facts are out, there is not a plank left for his foes to stand on, so far as this affair is concerned.

Suits Against Venango National Bank.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed that suits be brought at once against the stockholders of the Venango National Bank of Franklin, which was a United States depository and failed in 1865, owing the Government nearly $300,000. The Government employed David Derickson as special attorney to take charge of the Government's interest. He induced the Government to take three tracts of land, about thirteen hundred acres, owned by the bank, which sold in February last for but $11,000. The suits then brought appear settled, and it is stated that the department is of the opinion that the stockholders paid Derickson about ten per cent. to so settle, which would make about $78,000. The investigation in the Treasury gives reason to believe that the settlement was not regular. The Government will, therefore, ignore the sale, and bring suit against the stockholders who under the law are *pro rata* responsible to the creditors of the bank for all amounts above the assets. The case will be tried in Pittsburgh, according to present arrangements.

The Indian Campaign.

Advices from the Indian country received at the headquarters of the army indicate an all summer's campaign against Sitting Bull. It is stated that other tribes will act in concert. Custer has resumed command of his regiment.

The Diaz Revolution.

Recent dispatches speak of the movement of Escabedo with 5,000 troops as certain to annihilate the Diaz outbreak.

Fitzhugh Will Not Resign.

Fitzhugh, the "biggest man than old Grant," says that he will not resign.

Minority Report on Government Printer.

The Republican member of the House Committee on Printing, Mr. Ballou, will make a minority report, in which he will demonstrate that the charges made by the committee against the Government Printer are entirely unfounded and not warranted by the testimony.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 15, 1876.

THE BLAINE INVESTIGATION BEGUN.

The sub-Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives to-day began the investigation of the charges against ex-Speaker Blaine in relation to the Fort Smith and Little Rock Railroad bonds. John C. Hunton, of Indianapolis, in response to a question put by Mr. Hunton, Chairman, testified that he was the Harrison alluded to in the article published in the Centennial issue of April 1st, and that the interview as published was correctly reported; had been a Government director of the Union Pacific Railroad for about four years; Clark, President of the Union Pacific Railroad, told witness he had received seventy-five bonds of the Fort Smith and Little Rock road for fifteen of the new bonds to be issued by the Union Pacific; witness thought it a strange transaction, and at the meeting of the Board of Directors in September, 1872, moved that a committee be appointed to investigate the matter; Rollins came to witness and asked him to withdraw the motion, as the investigation would involve ex-Speaker Blaine, and might defeat his re-election to the House; wishing to fully understand the matter, he took Mr. Merrill, of Omaha, with him next day to see Rollins, and asked him further in regard to the matter; Rollins told witness that it would involve a prominent member of the Republican party; when the House was investigating the Credit Mobilier, witness was on the stand; witness wrote Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, and asked to propound a question in relation to the matter to Rollins, but saw from the daily reports that it was not done; witness found an entry on the books of the Executive Committee directing Morton, Bliss & Co. to draw on the Treasurer for $64,000 and hold the Fort Smith and Little Rock bonds as collateral security; witness did not see Rollins how it would involve Blaine; in the following March an effort was made to change the words "bonds" to "money" in the entry stated on the stand; witness wrote Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, and asked to propound a question in relation to the matter to Rollins, but saw from the daily reports that it was not done; witness found an entry on the books of the Executive Committee directing Morton, Bliss & Co. to draw on the Treasurer for $64,000 and hold the Fort Smith and Little Rock bonds as collateral security; he subsequently stated to witness how it would involve Blaine; in the following March an effort was made to change the words "bonds" to "money"

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

WHEN the Supreme Court of the United States adjourned, recently, after deciding three hundred and thirty cases, there remained more than nine hundred on the calendar. This, as the Albany *Law Journal* says, "ought to satisfy Congress that something must be done." The best way to afford relief, it adds, is "by the establishment of an intermediate Court of Appeal."

THE Democrats of the House and Senate find it necessary to hold a caucus "to harmonize on various appropriation bills" and "mark out a path to be followed in the future." Several Democratic Senators oppose the appropriation bills passed by the House because of their too sweeping retrenchment. In a number of instances the appropriations for salaries were reduced below the amount fixed by existing laws, and the Senate very properly insists that these amounts should be appropriated until the laws have been changed.

THE last year was by no means a good one for receipts from customs, but it looks as though the present year would be even worse. Up to last Monday the customs receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, were $130,249,995, and the internal revenue receipts $100,859,119. In order to come up to last year the Treasury must collect within the next forty-two days $25,000,000 from customs and $9,000,000 from internal revenue. With regard to customs this can hardly be done, because the receipts seem to fall off rather than to increase. Internal revenue receipts, however, are ahead of the estimate, and it is hoped they will do a good deal toward closing the gap that is made by the falling of in customs.

THERE are indications that the Indianapolis *Journal's* startling exposure of the corruption of the Indiana Supreme Court is the death-knell of judicial Democracy in that State for some years to come. In four years a court made up of Republicans expended $17,774 82, and Democrats cried out that it was extravagance. But now that a Democratic court expends in the same time nearly four times as much, or $63,811 62, they have nothing to say. The personal expenses of the Republican court, after deducting rent, were less than $100. The personal expenses of the present Democratic court, with no rent to pay, are $8,211 93. Such is Democratic honesty and economy. It is intimated that the Democratic State Central Committee will be compelled to take measures to nominate a new judicial ticket, on account of the damaging revelations in question. The rectification will come too late.

NEW YORK papers predict that money will be unusually abundant and rates of interest very low this summer. The large increase of deposits each week in the banks of that city seems to warrant this conclusion. The currency also is flowing steadily from all quarters of the country to the city banks, because in the present dullness of trade there is no employment for it. The *Bulletin* thinks there is no reason to expect anything except an easy money market until after the autumn. Very much will then depend on whether the legal tender notes deposited with the United States Treasurer to retire bank note circulation, which the banks have given up, are kept locked up in the Treasury or are used as cash by the United States Treasurer. If they are locked up, then we may expect a stringent money market in the autumn; otherwise, a comfortably easy market.

IT IS pretty evident that the shot-gun policy is to be adopted in the Southern States from this time forward until the Presidential election. The Aberdeen (Miss.) *Examiner*, in speaking of the late murderous outrage at Coushatta, Louisiana, says:

"The man that shot Twitchell will never be discovered; for if known, he will not be betrayed by a people who are compelled by the laws of the National Government to bend the knee to a horde of scoundrels, or else kill off the scoundrels as the only alternative left them."

At Monroe, in the same State, a municipal election took place a few days ago. The Republicans cast a registered majority of about thirty, including all the colored voters. When the votes were canvassed, it was found the rebel Democracy had been successful. This is how the result was accomplished. On the evening preceding the election a Democratic mass meeting was held, at which the following resolution was unanimously passed:

Resolved, That we fully indorse the action of ex-Governor Johnson, John Golspath, in discharging his colored employees, and we earnestly urge each and every Democratic and Conservative citizen in the city of Monroe to discharge at once and refuse hereafter to employ any laborer who votes for the party of plunder.

The addresses were far in advance of the resolution, the speakers advocating force, if it should be necessary, to carry the election. Louisiana is one of the Valley States which demand that the general Government shall rebuild their levees at a cost of tens of millions of dollars.

THE railroad war is causing no little uneasiness among the holders of railway stocks and securities. This class of investment, never very reliable in the important item of dividends, is subject to severe depression from ordinary competition, as well as from the ruinous "cutting" of rates between rival lines. The war now in progress between several of the leading railways of the country, promises to surpass in intensity all that have preceded it, and the effect upon the prices of stocks, and the prospective loss of dividends, are not pleasant to contemplate. To obtain the bulk of the Centennial travel is the cause of the present contest. A correspondent remarks: "The different routes have advantages each peculiar to itself. The Erie road, now in the hands of a receiver, with stock at 14 and under no necessity of making a dividend, has the advantage afforded by this condition of things. The Baltimore and Ohio road has a short route and has never watered its stock, which is now worth nearly 200. It pays ten per cent. The Pennsylvania Central runs over extensive beds of coal and thus obtains cheap fuel. The New York Central is a long route, but has the advantage of being in perfect running order. There is the necessity of paying eight per cent. dividend, but this only extends to Buffalo. The Lake Shore road is not expected to pay any dividend under present circumstances. This accounts for the recent decline in its stock, which has touched 53, but is now 55."

THE BLIND.

The forty-third annual report of the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Institution of the Blind, has been received. Two or three facts, contained in the report, are worthy of note. In the first place, the managers have requested the President of the board to present a memorial to the Legislature, asking that provision be made for receiving into the public schools all blind children under ten years of age, of whom there were about one hundred in the State, according to the census of 1870. It is now conceded that the presence of these children in the public schools would tend greatly to the development of their faculties. Three or four years of daily companionship with children who have their sight, could not fail to give them right notions, and improve their condition in many ways, both mentally and physically. The blind acquire knowledge very readily from oral instruction, and the most experienced teachers are now satisfied that the best preliminary training they can have is to be sought in contact with the buoyant life of their more favored companions. Should the State make provision for admitting blind children to the public schools, it is believed that a course of instruction could be so arranged that the admission of a blind pupil, here and there, would not perceptibly increase the duty of the teacher. The plan has been pursued in Scotland, for a period of fifty years, with very marked success, and there is no reason why it should not succeed in Pennsylvania.

Another question discussed is, the increase of the number of blind in the State, and the necessity for increased means of instruction. The full capacity of the institution is about two hundred; and there are now two hundred and seven inmates, with fifty-one applicants waiting for admission. It is not desirable to enlarge the buildings; and, and as the number of blind keeps pace with the increase in population, additional provision will have to be made, or many of these unfortunate persons will be consigned to pauperism by reason of being deprived of instruction in handicraft. This the Commonwealth will certainly not permit, and the establishment of a similar institution in the western part of the State will doubtless receive the early attention of the Legislature. The managers of the Philadelphia school state explicitly that the number under their control is as large as can be judiciously placed under one administration, and "they certainly should be far from seeing with any regret a similar institution established in the western part of the State." The number of blind in the State, in 1870, was 1,767, and it is estimated that in 1880 the number will be over 2,200. The report concludes as follows:

"It is by no means necessary that a new institution, in its first beginnings, should be upon the scale of the existing one. The number of the blind of a suitable age for instruction would not, for some years, require so great an outlay. Of the 1,767 blind persons in Pennsylvania, in the year 1870, only 609 were between the ages of ten and forty years. It would not be difficult nor very expensive to establish a school upon a moderate scale sufficient for present needs, which might grow with the increase of population and the demands of the correspondent increase of blind in the Commonwealth. It was thus that our institution attained its present dimensions. In the fourth year of its existence (1837) we find that the cost of the present buildings thereon erected was $44,896 33, and that the number of pupils was thirty-three. There seems no reason why a new institution should not originate in some such unostentatious way without any very heavy demands upon the Treasury of the State."

THE seventh annual report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics, just published, presents some interesting facts in connection with the amount of money earned by persons in various occupations in that State, and what they do with it. The report is based upon returns received from 80,893 persons, representing nearly twelve hundred district vocations. Of these returns, some 70,000 are from those who work for daily wages, and nearly 10,000 from the salary class. The average yearly earnings of the former are $482 for men, and $198 for women; the average, as returned by manufacturers for 279,389 employees was $422 according to the United States census of 1870. This small difference is accounted for by the fact that the State returns were made during a season of great depression. The report also contains some curious facts relating to the length of a day's work in different countries, showing that in the United States the shortest hours are employed. The daily wages of women are about two-fifths as much as those of men, and among colored persons over three-fifths as much. Another department of the report treats of the material condition of those who work at so much per day. Twenty-three per cent. of these own the houses in which they live, but of these 44½ per cent. are mortgaged, the average rate of interest paid being from 7.4 per cent. to 7.7 per cent. The average amount paid for rent is $109 per annum, or twenty-two and a half per cent. of the average income; certainly a small enough margin for obtaining the necessaries of life, or the laying aside of something for a rainy day. The operatives in the chief cotton manufacturing cities earn from $1 91 to $1 97 per day. The male laborers, about six out of the three hundred and eight legal working days in the year, chiefly attributable to the custom of taking extra holidays and to the suspension of work during strikes. About one in eight reported an average of $119 earnings above their wages, the fruit of occupation in extra hours. The men receiving wages work, it appears, less per day than those getting salaries, while it is from the former class that the complaints of overwork mostly come.

ANOTHER GOOD DEMOCRAT.

Criminal Record of a Would-be Congressman.

[Washington Dispatch to Chicago Inter-Ocean.]

The Washington *Chronicle* this morning publishes an article from which it appears that Hon. Buttz Fitzhugh, a Democrat, who is now contesting the seat in the House of Representatives of A. W. Mackey, a Republican, of South Carolina, has been guilty of about as despicable a crime as Horace Greeley ever mentioned in the list of practices of the Democratic party. On the 18th of March, 1872, Mr. A. Hart, trustee of schools of the District of Columbia, appeared before Police Judge Snell, and charged Buttz with debauching little school girls, aged from ten to fourteen years. On the trial the charge was fully sustained, and Buttz was sentenced to a fine of $500, or to six months' imprisonment in jail. He took an appeal to the District Court, which found there was no law covering his offense, and ordered a *nolle prosequi* in the case. He returned to Washington became too warm for Buttz, and he went to South Carolina and ran for Congress on the Democratic ticket, having a villainous character and a dirtier record than Mackey, but comes here to contest his seat. In the daily papers of the 19th of March, 1872, is found the following:

Buttz is accused of deliberate and systematic attempts to seduce and debase little girls whose ages range from ten to fourteen years. It was his practice to loiter around the school buildings and induce innocent children to go into his room under the pretense of giving them candies. He drugged, debauched them, and one of the girls to such an extent that the trustees have expelled her from the school to prevent the spread of her evil influence, he inducted the girl on the part of the procuress and to bring her companions to his room. When there, he made the most obscene and disgusting proposals, and filled the minds of the children with the most loathsome ideas. The trustees have been investigating the matter for three weeks, and the statements of the children show that the scoundrel Buttz illustrates to its fullest extent the doctrine of total depravity. The majority of the girls testified that his proposals were well developed, and informed their parents of his infamous proposals, but in one or two instances he obtained a more unholy influence over the children. Buttz claimed to be a lawyer, and has been engaged lately in the prosecution of the contested election case of Bowen *vs.* Delange before the Committee on Elections. He will have a hearing before Judge Snell this morning. It is hinted that there is no law to take hold of such a case. If so, how can society protect itself from a wretch so vile? He certainly be permitted to run at large.

It will be interesting to notice with what devotion to virtue and dignity the ex-Confederate House will endeavor to seat this fiend.

THE LOST CAUSE NOT DEAD.

A Southern Memorial Orator Who Declares Slavery a Divine Institution Which Must be Restored.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 19.—The great event of the old North State has been the final consummation of the exercises on Memorial Day in this city. It will be remembered that on May 20th last year, Charlotte, North Carolina, celebrated its centennial anniversary in commemoration of the Mecklenburg declaration of independence. On that occasion Southern and Northern orators "clasped hands over the bloody chasm," and prophesied peace and prosperity. To-day, however, the programme was changed. Immediately after the Republican District Convention met, a large procession was formed and marched to Elmwood Cemetery. The fact of the Republican Convention meeting this morning seemed to fire the brains of these *radical rebels*. It is now a question among Unionists here: "Are we reconstructed, or are we not?" The oration was delivered by S. Taylor Martin, D. D., an old secessionist and one of the most bitter men in the State. General P. H. Winder, of South Carolina, was Chief Marshal, assisted by the Radical Conservative, General D. H. Hill, editor of the *Southern Home*. A large audience attended. The following are some extracts from S. Taylor Martin's speech:

"It is with mingled feelings of sorrow and exultation that I to-day recall the issues of 1860 and 1861. We all mourn the loss of our glorious dead and heroic fallen. The South is to-day ruled over by the miserable thrall of Yankeedom; but we cannot muzzle our chivalry and patriotic devotion to the lost cause. We fought for our rights, but in God's dispensation we are now vanquished but not cowed."

Here the speaker went into a long harangue on the causes of the war, and, alluding to the future, he said:

"Slavery was a divine institution, and we must have it restored. The South will never be bankrupt. They speak of our cause as the 'lost cause.' If so, shall it be lost forever? No! A new generation has sprung up, and at a not far distant day there will float Stars and Bars floating proudly over our sunny South. In the next political campaign we must, even in the minority, support a Southern man who will build up our interests, and hurl the Yankee pickpockets from our midst. We are to-day united to the puritanical host by an artificial tie; but we are a distinct people, and the right will eventually come to show the world the truth and the equity of our claims. Our statesmen now in Congress are the cream of that body, and are the only element that reflects credit on the United States. Is it not better to hang on to the 'lost cause' than to stay in a Government of corruption?"

Some persons in the audience cried "no," when the gentleman's speech was implacably hostile, and is deeply deplored by a few here. Although the speech was able and scholarly it was bitterly received and from beginning to end. The speaker was but slightly applauded. A prominent Republican remarked this evening that this speech marked a Republican victory in this State in November next.

Why is it that so many rich men postpone making their will until the very last? A. T. Stewart made no will until he was seventy years old and had just narrowly escaped death. And here is another instance, of a millionaire bachelor in New York, John A. Merritt, who, past seventy, only undertook to make a will when at death's door, and the effort broke down his reason. He died without the use of his faculties, his vast estate undisposed of.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16, 1876.

The Erie Postmastership.

The letter of Judge Vincent, filed with the papers on the Erie postmastership, is simply a statement of the ability and fitness of General Walker for the place, but does not urge Mr. Gara's removal. The letter of ex-Representative Curtis is in favor of Walker, if it is decided to remove Gara, but thinks matters had better remain as they are for the present. The contest is very evenly balanced. A disposition is expressed at the department to let Mr. Gara finish out his term, which will last about a year, and then appoint Walker.

The North Carolina Delegation to Cincinnati.

Advices from North Carolina state that the Republican delegation will go to Cincinnati unpledged. Personally, about half the delegates are for Blaine, one-fourth for Bristow and the balance undecided.

Fitzhugh to be Let Alone.

The House Committee on Rules are disposed to let their Doorkeeper, Fitzhugh, escape. They say that they have nothing to do with crimes committed before he was elected to office. Fitzhugh is quite positive of his support at the hands of his Democratic friends.

The Senate Discussing the Question of Jurisdiction.

In the Senate, in secret session, Judge Edmunds occupied the entire day in favor of jurisdiction. He was frequently interrogated as he proceeded. The discussion will yet consume several days. There is little doubt but that the decision will be for jurisdiction. The Democrats have held an informal caucus in order to secure amongst themselves unanimous action for jurisdiction. Several were disposed to act the other way. Amongst the Senators who may be mentioned for jurisdiction are Wallace, Thurman, Sherman, McDonald, Sargent and Edmunds. Frelinghuysen, Morton and Howe are opposed.

The Disorders in Louisiana

were the subject of lengthy consideration in the Cabinet to day. It was decided that there were sufficient United States troops in the State to meet all possible contingencies. There will be no interference except in case of extreme necessity, and then upon formal call.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17, 1876.

A Remarkable Concession.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs to-day decided to notify all officers of the navy whose names appear in the testimony, and implicate them in the Southern frauds if they would retain their place for me and allow my pay to continue while I went to Canada. Souer said he would give me $150 cash to go with, and $50 per month while I remained. Sharpe said he could not give leave of absence, but would give me a place when I returned. I did not agree to go. I said Souer was a small man to be the country with. I said if they would pay Morey's notes, amounting to $300, and give me $500 dollars more, I would go to Montreal. Souer agreed to try and obtain the $500 for me, but would not pay the notes, and Souer kept trying to bluff me, saying if I testified I would get into trouble, and I would not have anything more to do with him.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17, 1876.

THE FORT SMITH BLAINE INVESTIGATION.

The sub-committee of the Judiciary Committee this morning resumed the investigation of the allegation against Representative Blaine in connection with seventy-five bonds of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad Company. Mr. Caldwell testified he had informed Blaine that he understood from a statement of Harrison that his name had been connected with the seventy-five bonds of that company that were in possession of the Union Pacific Railroad Company; that Blaine replied that no one could be more surprised than himself at such a report; that he never had anything to do with these bonds, and that he had no present or prospective interest in them.

Levi P. Morton, of Morton, Bliss & Co., testified that in June, 1871, he loaned to Andrew Carnegie and Colonel Thomas A. Scott, $60,000 upon collateral security, which was sixty seven Union Pacific income bonds and seventy-five Little Rock bonds; that he failed to use his money, and a loan was negotiated that it was for Colonel Scott; he never heard that Blaine was interested in it; he could not remember the value of the Little Rock bonds at the time of the loan; he knew of no railroad bonds in which Blaine was interested, and never had any business transactions with him.

Andrew Carnegie corroborated Morton's testimony, declaring that he raised the $60,000 for Scott; that the Union Pacific income bonds were his own, and were afterward sold; that he had never heard the name of Blaine in the transactions.

Sidney Dillon, President of the Union Pacific, testified that money was advanced to Scott on account of the construction company under the Little Rock road was to him; he had never heard of Blaine's name in the transaction.

SEELEYE CROSS EXAMINED.

The investigation of Morey, member of Congress from Louisiana, was resumed today. Major Seeleye was cross-examined. He said there was a defalcation of between $11,000 and $13,000 in the New Orleans postoffice, and that the employees there were assessed to make up the deficiency; witness declined to answer an inquiry whether he was guilty of crimes or not, on the ground that he or others would be criminated thereby, and charged that Morey tried to get him in the penitentiary to screen himself. Morey counsel tried to show up Seeleye's bad character. Seeleye admitted that he got railroad passes as special agent of the postoffice after his term expired. He reiterated the charge that the Republicans had tried to intimidate him from making an exposure, and threatened to send him to the penitentiary.

POSTAL CONTRACTS.

J. T. Taggart, of Utah, to-day testified before the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads that in 1870 he undertook to obtain certain mail contracts for Gilman & Saulsbury. He went to Morgan L. Smith, brother of the Second Assistant Postmaster General, who suggested that Gilman & Saulsbury should give him [Morgan L. Smith] $10,000, which he would return to them in case they were not awarded the desired contracts. The firm declined the offer, and witness had no further connection with the business.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The Eastern Question.

PREPARATIONS BY THE LEGATIONS AT CONSTANTINOPLE FOR ANY EMERGENCY —RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, May 17.—A Berlin dispatch to the *Daily News* says it is rumored that the council of ambassadors at Constantinople has agreed to recommend that all the ladies of the foreign legations be sent on board the men-of war, in readiness to leave in case the danger continues.

The *News* publishes a dispatch from Constantinople, which was delayed since Friday, showing that the ambassadors and others believed an outbreak was then imminent. The ambassadors made joint arrangement for the protection of their countrymen. All the legations had men under arms. The French landed sailors for the protection of the steamers of the Messageiers Maritimes. The Russians armed 2,000 Montenegrins, and the Austrians armed 1,500 Croates and the crews of the Austrian Lloyds' steamer. The British fleet was telegraphed for to come to Besica Bay.

The *Times* Berlin dispatch says the result of the conference is the resolution of the three Powers to ask the Sultan for additional guarantees for the execution of the reforms. These guarantees are adopted to the insurgent programme, and involve the confirmation by the Sultan of a superintending commission appointed by the Powers. This scheme, if approved by the Western Powers, will be recommended to the Porte in a note. If the Porte makes the desired concessions, the scheme will be submitted to the insurgents, who will be requested to lay down their arms. An attempt to conclude an armistice will precede these negotiations. If the above project falls through in any of its successive shapes, a conference of all the Powers will possibly be proposed.

THE EXECUTIONS AT SALONICA.

SALONICA, May 17.—Twenty-three present time eleven persons, all of the lowest class, have been convicted of complicity in the murders. Of these six have already suffered death, as reported in a previous dispatch. The execution took place in the public square. There was a large crowd present. Only a few Turks were present.

PANIC AMONG CHRISTIANS.

LONDON, May 17.—A Vienna dispatch says a panic prevails among the Christians in Rustchk, and the consuls have sent their families across the Danube. The Porte has refused to allow a Greek manof-war pass the Dardanelles, declaring that the Powers which signed the treaty of Paris are alone entitled to station vessels of war in the Golden Horn.

A NEW BASIS OF SETTLEMENT.

LONDON, May 17.—The Russian Telegraphic Agency has received a special communication, stating that the population of Constantinople is still discontented, and considers the changes made in the Government not sufficiently radical. The panic among the Europeans has consequently much increased, and foreign representatives are taking every precaution.

Lord Strathmore, Earl of Glamis, former ambassador of Great Britain at Constantinople, writes to the *Times* recommending a scheme for a convention between the Sultan and the Powers, providing for the establishment of religious equality, the proper administration of justice and the participation of Christians in the public revenues throughout Turkey, the execution of these reforms to be entrusted to a mixed commission, the members of which shall be responsible to their respective Governments.

Germany.

RESIGNATION OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE.

LONDON, May 17.—The *Standard's* dispatch from Berlin reports that Herr Camphausen, Vice President of the Pussian Ministry and Minister of Finance, will tender his resignation in a few days, on account of differences with Bismarck. The same dispatch says ex-President Thiers has declared his readiness to appear as a witness in favor of Count von Arnim, if his health permits him to make the journey to Berlin.

METHODISM.

Proceedings of the General Conference of the M. E. Church.

BALTIMORE, May 16.—In the Methodist Conference to-day, a resolution that women be eligible to the offices of leader, steward, class-paper and trustee was rejected. It was also a resolution advising annual conferences not to receive into full connection nor ordain any preacher to deacon's or elder's orders unless he abstain entirely from the use of tobacco.

The special order of day, appropriate memorial services in honor of the memory of deceased bishops, was then called and the church who have died since the last General Conference, was taken up. After singing, Bishop Jones delivered an address saying he was eloquent in praising the dead in the Christian life and eminent services of the late Bishop Thomas A. Morris, and also Rev. John Wright Roberts, late Missionary Bishop to Liberia. Those laws of which were of the most impressive and solemn character, were concluded by singing the hymn,

"There is a land of pure delight,
Where saints immortal reign,"

in which the entire conference and audience joined.

Bishop Janes, while speaking of his predecessor, Bishop Morris, and this pair ing with Bishop Roberts, could not suppress the tears. After adopting a report on to proceed to the election of editors of the *Quarterly Review*. Sundry school books, Sunday papers and tracts and German papers to morrow, and as soon there after as possible the election of book agents at New York, Cincinnati and elsewhere, and other editors, the conference adjourned.

BALTIMORE, May 17.—In the Methodist Episcopal General Conference to day, the Committee on Centennial Observances in commemoration of the Methodist Episcopal Conference held in Baltimore, May 21st, 1776, submitted a programme of exercises, and requesting the Board of Bishops to select one of their number to speak on the occasion.

After the reference of several resolutions of minor interest, the conference elected editors and other officers. Dr. D. D. Whedon was unanimously elected editor of the *Methodist Review*, and Dr. H. H. Vincent editor of the Sunday school papers and tracts. Election for editors of the *Christian Apologist* and *German Magazine* also resulted in re-elections. Messrs. Nelson and Phillips were re-elected by acclamation agents of the New York Book Concern, and Messrs. Hitchcock and Walden, agents of the Cincinnati Book Concern, of the Western Book Concern, also re-elected by acclamation. A motion to postpone the election of editor of the New *York Christian Advocate* was lost, and Dr. D. D. Curry, of Kansas, and Dr. Haven were put in nomination. The first ballot resulted as follows: Whole number of votes, 324; necessary to a choice, 163; C. H. Fowler received 162, D. Curry 143, E. O. Haven 10, scattering 6. Dr. Fowler was then declared elected. The election of editors of the *Western, Northwestern*, Pittsburgh and *Central Christian Advocates* and Atlanta *Methodist* was postponed till to-morrow. Rev. H. C. Benson, of California, was the only nominee for editor of the *Pacific Christian Advocate*, and was elected unanimously. The election for editors of the *Northern Christian Advocate*, *Pacific Christian Advocate* and *Ladies' Repository* was postponed.

After a protracted discussion, a report was adopted of the Committee on Missions, fixing two secretaries as the number to be employed by the Board of Managers.

Adjourned.

A NEW INDUSTRY CRUSHED.

Manufacture of Counterfeit Railroad Tickets Broken Up in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, May 17.—It has been known for a week or two past that counterfeit railroad ticket have been in circulation here, and that some roads leading north and east have been victimized. The matter has been in the hands of detectives for some days, and the information obtained led to the arrest last night of Jefferson and Brolaski, for being engaged in making and altering these counterfeits. Brolaski is a clerk in the Pacific and St. Louis Bridge Company's office here and is very respectably connected in this city. Another man named Edwin M. Baker, who was recently released from Chicago, is also implicated in the matter, but eluded arrest. The detectives weredon his track, however, and he has been speedily captured. In the room of Brolaski and Baker was found a complete outfit, including machines, dies, ink, &c., and about $10,000 worth of bogus tickets. These latter are coupon tickets from Lawrence, Kansas, to New York over the Missouri Pacific, Chicago and Alton, Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and Erie roads. Also from Topeka, Kansas, to Philadelphia, over the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, Missouri Pacific, Ohio and Mississippi, Little Miami, Columbus and Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania roads. Other parties are also reported to be connected with the swindle, but as evidence against them is meager their names are withheld.

Howard Brolaski, a prominent shoe merchant, and E. S. Gardner, an employee of his, were arrested this evening, charged with implication in forging railroad tickets by Brolaski and E. M. Baker, the former of whom was arrested last night. Baker has not yet been captured. J. A. Brolaski confessed to-day that he and Baker were engaged in making and selling bogus tickets.

POLITICAL.

Doings of Conventions Yesterday.

Allen Beats Thurman in Ohio.

THE RAG BABY RESUSCITATED

The Prohibitionists Nominate Green Clay Smith for President.

A Little of Everything and Not Much of Anything Practical in Their Platform.

New Jersey, Tennessee and Alabama Republican Delegations.

Iowa Democracy Declare for Soapy Sam.

New York.

ADDRESS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK CITY.

NEW YORK, May 16.—The gentlemen who met in the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday to confer upon the present political situation, with special regard to the Presidential campaign, resumed their session this morning, Rev. Dr. Woolsey presiding. The President announced that the Committee on Address, appointed yesterday, was ready to report, and immediately Carl Schurz arose and read the following address to the American people:

FELLOW CITIZENS—A conference of citizens assembled in New York, sincerely desiring to serve the best interests of the American people, beg leave to submit to your candid consideration the following appeal:

A national election is approaching under circumstances of peculiar significance. Never before in our history has the public mind been so profoundly agitated by apprehensions of the dangers arising from the prevalence of corrupt tendencies and practices in our political life, and never has there been greater reason for it. We will not display here in detail the distressing catalogue of disclosures which, for several years have followed one another in rapid succession, and seem to have set scarcely a single sphere of our political life untouched. The records of courts, of State Legislatures and of the National Congress speak with terrible plainness, and still they are adding to the scandalous exhibition. While such a state of things would, under any circumstance, appear most deplorable, it is peculiarly so at the present moment, when we are about to celebrate the one hundredth birthday of our national existence. We have invited the nations of the earth on this great anniversary to visit our country. That an exhibition of our national progress, as well as the workings and effects of that republican government which, a century ago, our fathers founded. That the most inspiring memories of our past history may be revived before us as a new era of life, forcing upon us a comparison of what this Republic was once, what it is now, and what it ought to be, and what it now is; and upon this we have challenged the judgment of civilized mankind and posterity with our own. There is much of which every American citizen has just reason to be proud. Our energy and thrift, our power of thought and action, our progressive spirit which, in the magnificence of its results, has outstripped even the boldest anticipation, a history abounding in illustrations of heroic patriotism, fortitude and wisdom, a great Constitution, a happy reign of wars and revolutionary change, a form of Government the most stable of nations can boast of. Our Republic is but a century old, and has just issued from the only great civil conflict which we have to deplore, so strong in resources and organization that it stands in the foremost rank of the great powers of the earth; and yet with the most splendid results on record, it cannot be denied that we at no period of our history have now behind us, have the American people been less satisfied with themselves. That while the approaching centennial anniversary of the Declaration of independence, in most respects, is to all Americans a day of the highest pride and rejoicing, it is felt to be in other respects not without self-reproach and humiliation. That this, the greatest fact recorded in our political life is the cause, as the language of the immortal Lincoln has said, every patriot citizen feels a burning shame at the spectacle presented in the centennial year by the public manifestations of the virtues of the past, and here the strong evidence of demoralization and corruption in the present. These are the words of eulogies pronounced on the wisdom and purity of the fathers, in striking contrast with the verdicts of courts, and records of legislative bodies illustrating the political morals of to-day, and this humiliating contrast is not summoned as a witness to the exhibition, and as a guest to the feast. Never was there such a call for self-criticism and for the courage to strike every patriotic heart.

How can we avert such dangers and wipe off such shame? By proving that although the Government machinery has become corrupt, the great body of the people are sound at the core, and that they are honestly determined to reform the abuses of our political life, and to place in the hands of honest men the helm of the State and the conduct of affairs. Only such an effort, when rightly directed and sternly pursued in until success is assured, will save the good name of the nation and prevent the prevailing disease from becoming fatal. Only such an effort will restrengthen the faith of our own people in their institutions.

At the impending national election, various questions of great importance will be submitted to the people for their decision. The unity of the civil war as constitutionally fixed must be conscientiously maintained, and at the same time the public credit has been so pledged and the confidence by the strict observance of constitutional principles, and the old record of the people revived by a policy of mutual forbearance and conciliation, and by the old oft repeated pledges faithfully to discharge all national obligations must be fulfilled in all its parts. One great question is the paramount interest of our bonded debt when due, but also the removal, more than the term provided by existing law, of the cause of our redundant, irredeemable paper currency, and the return to the constitutional use of true prosperity, but has also largely contributed to the existing demoralization.

There are grave questions before us. Here are more we might touch were it our purpose to lay down a complete political platform, but grave as they are, still, in our present situation we must, as American citizens, recognize it as our most pressing duty to re-establish the moral character of our Government, and to elevate the tone of our political life. Upon this question depends the first condition of enduring national prosperity, power and freedom. Without it no material progress, which were of the most impressive and solemn character, were concluded by singing the hymn,

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date. Every American citizen who has the future of the public and the national honor sincerely at heart should solemnly resolve that the country must have a President whose name is already a watchword of reform; whose capacity and courage for the work are matters of record rather than of promise: who will restore the simplicity, independence and rectitude of the early administrations and whose life will be a guaranty of his fidelity and fitness; a man, at the mere sound of whose name, even the most distinguished will take new courage, and all mankind will say the Americans are indeed in earnest to restore the ancient purity of their Government.

Fellow citizens, the undersigned, in addressing you, are not animated by the ambition to form or lead a new party. Most of us have long been, and still are warmly attached to their party associations. It would be most gratifying to us to see, by party action, candidates put forward whose character and record answer those requirements which present circumstances render imperative. We earnestly hope and trust it will be so. We shall gladly follow such a lead, and make every effort in our power to render it successful. But, if the we are ready to accept any an every good result of party action, we affirm that the moral reform of our public conscience is infinitely superior in importance to the interests of any political party. Glad to promote that reform through party action, we will insist upon it at all events. Should party action fail, this conference touches us that the habitual submission of good citizens to a choice of evils presented to them by party organizations is one of the most prolific causes of corruption in our politics. The acceptance by the people of the argument, that one party may be bad, and still be entitled to the support of all its voters because the other party is still worse, will influence each to consider how bad it may safely be. It will strengthen in each the power of the most unscrupulous element, and subject the will of the people to the subtle tyranny of organization wielded by those who live by politics. To break that tyranny by stern refusal to submit to such a choice of evils is the first beginning in the reform of our political life. Without this, all reform will prove unavailing. We shall sincerely rejoice to see the necessity of independent action avoided. We earnestly hope that the efforts to this end being made by the friends of reform within party lines will be crowned by success, and that the just expectations of the people may not be doomed to disappointment. But, whatever we are compelled to do, we, your fellow citizens who, in their hearts, agree with what we have said, will only take the courage openly to proclaim their convictions and purposes, such a manifestation alone would produce an effect sufficient to secure nominations and an election inaugurating a better order of things.

We, therefore, appeal to all good citizens, who find their own sentiments expressed in this address, be they inside or outside party lines, to organize in their respective districts, counties and States in accordance with the Executive committee appointed at this meeting, on that efficient co-operation may become possible. Let no effort be spared in bringing the independent and patriotic public opinion to bear upon those who, in the customary way, are about to nominate candidates, and then, in any event, be fully ready to do what the best interests of the Republic demand. Our generation has to oppose the second century of our national life as the fathers opened the first. Theirs was the work of independence; ours is the work of reformation. The one is as vital now as the other was then. Now as then, every true American must live for the country or do less than duty.

The address is signed by Carl Schurz, Missouri, Chairman; Martin Brimmer, Massachusetts; L. F. S. Foster, Connecticut; Parke Godwin, New York; John W. Hoyt, Wisconsin; published by order of the conference, and signed by Theodore Woolsey, President, the Vice Presidents and Secretaries.

The address was received with great applause, and without discussion unanimously adopted.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Schurz, was then adopted:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be appointed by the Chair, cons

THE CENTENNIAL.

Display of Fruits and Vegetables—More French Goods.

PHILADELPHIA, May 17.—The special display of fruits and vegetables, which was announced for to-day in Agricultural Hall, Centennial Exposition, was postponed until to-morrow.

The French steamer L'Amerique is expected to-day with four hundred tons of French exhibits. Among her passengers are French, Belgian and Russian judges of the Centennial awards.

Disagreeable Weather Keeping People Indoors—Efforts to Harmonize Clashing Authorities—Bringing Prices Down to a Reasonable Plane—Philadelphians Doing Their Marketing in Pittsburgh—Amusements Poorly Patronized—Opening of Operti's Garden—Coming Events.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

PHILADELPHIA, May 16, 1876.

Another day of cold, drizzling, depressing rain has succeeded one of mild, inviting temperature, and an enforced staying at home has ensued. The grounds were nearly deserted; none but those whose duties called them in that direction were there.

The Commissioners were in executive session, but what was the result, no one outside is advised. It is hoped that something will be done to break the dead lock between the Finance Committee and the Commissioners. Some action is absolutely necessary to harmonize the double-headed Commission and popularize the Exposition before it can work smoothly. The lesson of the past week has corrected some abuses; some of the leading hotels which had increased their prices have made haste to recede to former rates; the St. Cloud and some others have not reduced their prices, for they had not changed them. They are entitled to all praise for their example. The hotels have had their expenses largely increased in every direction—all their employees, their provisions, almost everything; but the increased traffic will more than cover these expenses.

Butchers' meats, butter and vegetables have been increased from twenty to thirty-three per cent., and some have combined together to buy in Pittsburgh and other markets. This shows the insane spirit of speculation that has taken hold of so many, and which would result in the ruin of the success of the Exposition if there were not some possessed of their reason still remaining.

The amusements of the city have not been patronized as expected; no crowds at any time. Operti's "tropical garden," for promenade concerts, opened last night in a blaze of splendor, and very select audience. It is situated near the main entrance to the Exposition, and can accommodate ten thousand guests with comfort. It will be a cool and delightful resort for the guests of the new hotels in the hot summer nights, as well as for the citizens. A member of the Swedish Commission remarked that such things (as creating such a beautiful place of resort) were only possible in this country.

The Swedes have made arrangements to come here in large numbers in July. A steamer is chartered to bring a large party at $100 for the round trip.

The hotels are gradually filling. Very few Pittsburghers are arriving. Judge Kirkpatrick is in town.

The races, a regatta on Saturday and the billiard tournament are attracting their devotees. The round of entertainments will begin in earnest in June, after which they will be kept up steadily for four months.

CENTURION.

BLOODSHED IN LOUISIANA.

Trouble Between White and Blacks—A Large Number of Negroes Killed and Wounded—Singularly Enough, No Whites Shed Their Blood—The Civil Authorities Powerless to Prevent Further Strife—The Facts Laid Before the Government.

NEW ORLEANS, May 18.—The *Times'* special dated Summit, Miss., May 15, says: Information was received here last night of a row between the negroes and whites at Laurel Hill, West Feliciana parish, near the Mississippi line, on Friday night. About thirty negroes went to the store of a white man in that vicinity and called him to the door and riddled him with bullets. A number of white men went out on Saturday for the body, but the negroes wouldn't give it up. A fight ensued, and three negroes were killed and two white men are missing. The negroes are gathering. Eleven hundred are said to be under arms. The whites are getting guns from surrounding counties in Mississippi, and a serious fight is expected.

A special to the *Republican* says, under date of Bayou Sara, La., May 15: This is what I consider as reliable as can be obtained Saturday night's doings: Eight colored men have been shot dead, and four hanged; about twenty were wounded, a few of them mortally. Persons just from the scene report sixty blacks killed, but this statement is considered exaggerated. Twenty colored men are reported to be held as prisoners. Their fate is uncertain, but the supposition is that they will be hanged. It is also reported that *the number of negroes killed will never* be ascertained, as many were thrown into the lake to remove the dead secretly. The number of regulators under arms is said to be five hundred from East Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, La., and Wilson county, Miss. They entered parishes in small bands in self-defense. On Saturday and Friday night numbers of colored men crossed to Pointe Coupee to escape the killing there.

A second dispatch from Bayou Sara says: There has been a regular battle at Laurel Hill, between white and colored men. Three whites are reported killed. God only knows where the wounded are. There was a lot of blacks a few hours before—brilliant army retreated in the direction of Dunbar's Camp, where Colonel Dunbar has been encamped. The trembling fugitives had been arriving there in a demoralized state and created a panic almost as great as that of the 9th; and when the remainder of the whites in the retired army reached there on the 11th, Colonel Dunbar did not, for a moment, consider the propriety of making a stand, but destroyed all the artillery and burned all the heavy baggage, amounting in value to upwards of $500,000. The provincial soldiers looked on in disgust, and even showed their contempt for such a piece of cowardice upon the part of Colonel Dunbar. Now, after over 120 years have elapsed, these buried relics have been unearthed to be used on the 4th of July, 1876, in proclaiming the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence. Does it not seem strange, reader, that this same cannon will be cast from material that has been lying buried from sight, long enough ashamed of the disgrace heaped upon the English army—and at a time when the provincial soldiery, with George Washington as their side-de-camp, were severally allied to the English army—is now to be used in proclaiming the anniversary of Liberty, throughout the land, from English despotism? We do not think it could be fired from a more appropriate point than the summit of Dunbar's Camp; and Mr. Walters deserves so little credit for the inception of the project and his efforts in carrying it out. The cannon should be sent to the Centennial after it has performed its first duty.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION.

A Fog Signal Factory Blown Up.

TWO BUILDINGS BURNED.

Two Persons Thrown a Distance of Forty Feet and Seriously Injured.

A terrific explosion occurred at fifteen minutes after five o'clock Monday in a building on Main street, in the borough of Braddock, on the Pennsylvania and the Connellsville Railroads, about ten miles east of this city, which resulted in the utter demolition of the structure, the destruction by fire of two other buildings, and the serious injury of two persons. We have the following particulars:

The building in which the accident occurred was a three story brick structure, occupied by Dr. J. D. Schooley & Sons, the first floor as a drug store and the second story as offices and as a fog signal factory. The signals or torpedoes made here are for use on railroads during foggy weather, instead of flags, and are composed of an explosive material supposed to be nitro-glycerine. Persons who were in the vicinity of the building at the time of the accident state that there were two explosions, the report of the first being comparatively light, but the one which followed that next instant was tremendous, raising the roof from the street nothing but heaps of *debris*. The terror of the scene was increased by the appearance of a sheet of flame in the ruins, the inflammable material used in the manufacture of the torpedoes, as well as the oils and spirits forming a portion of the stock of the drug store, having become ignited. The fire was soon communicated to two frame dwellings adjoining the Schooley building, both of which were destroyed. The furniture in the tenements was saved.

A PROBABLE FATALITY.

Employed in the signal factory were a man named John M. McCready and a boy named Wm. Bowers, the latter aged about seventeen years, concerning whose fate nothing could be ascertained for several minutes after the explosion, and fears were entertained that they had perished. They were subsequently discovered in the *debris*, at a distance of about forty feet from the place they were working at the time of the accident. They were taken out as soon as possible and medical attention bestowed upon them. McCready received a painful cut on the head besides one on the arm and different parts of his body. Bowers is thought to be fatally injured, besides being stunned and he having sustained severe internal injuries.

THE LOSSES.

The loss of the Doctors Schooley is very heavy, consisting of their store, manufactory, a valuable library, instruments, specimens etc., upon which they have been engaged for years, and other valuable articles, the total loss of which they estimate at $20,000. Of the dwellings burned was owned and occupied by Mr. Wm. McCombs, whose loss is about $4,000, partly insured.

INCIDENTS, ETC.

The glass in almost every house within two squares of the scene of the explosion was shattered, so great was the concussion, and several persons were injured. Alexander Law, a sawyer, was thrown to the ground from the drug store, was struck in the neck by fragments of a window, and badly cut. Another in the vicinity was slightly injured in a similar manner. The windows in Sid. Perry's drug store, on an opposite corner, were all broken.

Drs. D. and Willis Schooley, together with Mr. William Schooley and the drug clerk, whose name was not learned by our reporter, were in the building at the time the accident occurred, and, strange to relate, escaped without injury.

There are two theories as to the cause of the explosion. The first of these is that the lightning caused it, and this hypothesis is strengthened by the fact that there was a telegraph office in the building and the electric current was playing about the instrument in an alarming way just before the explosion occurred. The other theory is that one of the workmen in the factory exploded a torpedo too suddenly somehow.

The members of the Braddock Base Ball club rendered valuable aid in extinguishing the fire.

MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY.

Successful Daylight Job—Union Iron Mill Safe Relieved of $2,700.

Another mysterious daylight robbery was perpetrated on Saturday, and the thief or thieves made way with some $2,700 in cash from the safe of Wilson, Walker & Co., proprietors of the Union Iron Mill, situated on Railroad street, between Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth streets. The cash had been drawn from the bank during the morning for the purpose of paying two weeks' wages to the mill hands in the afternoon. The statement of the occurrence is given as follows, in substance: A clerk named Grant had assorted the money and placed each amount in a separate envelope. There were ninety-five envelopes in all, containing sums ranging from five to forty dollars each. These packages were put in an envelope box and placed in a safe in the office, in presence of one of the proprietors of the works. Grant then locked the safe, placed the key in his pocket, and started for dinner. This was at ten minutes before twelve o'clock. In fifteen minutes after Grant had departed for dinner, leaving in the office a brother of Grant, who is a lad and acts as assistant clerk there. At half-past twelve this lad started out to spend the noon hour at his residence, which has been his custom at noon every day, leaving two of the mill hands, who had come to the office on errands, before, sitting in the office eating their dinner.

At a quarter to one the whistle sounded and the men began work. Grant came into the office and observed the door of the safe open, but thought nothing of it, as he supposed his brother had returned to the office and unlocked the safe and gone out for a moment. Grant, the elder, came in at ten minutes after one o'clock, when it was discovered that the safe had been opened and robbed during his absence. The envelope box was discovered in an adjoining room rifled of its contents, not a package being left.

The safe had no combination one, and was locked with an ordinary key, which would not be hard to duplicate. The Mayor's detectives, learning of the robbery, visited the works, where the proprietors could give them no clue, as they suspected no one, and had implicit confidence in all the employes present at the time having been about the office during noon.

THE BLACK HILLS

Return of a Party of Gold Hunters—They Pronounce the "Hills" a Colossal Swindle.

Messrs. Frank Falkner, James Cren, Robert Graham, William McFarland and John Brown, of the party which left Allegheny City for the Black Hills in March last, returned yesterday. They unanimously declare that the stories circulated to agitate and others interested in the Hills are invented for the purpose of perpetrating a gigantic swindle upon persons by inducing them to invest their hard earned savings in a trip to that region of humbuggery.

Mr. Faulkner states that while gold may be found in small quantities in the Hills, no one has yet found a sufficient yield to pay for the labor. Mr. F. prospected four days along the banks of the Hills, and only obtained what is called "colors." It takes sixty or seventy "colors" to make a cent. They are considered of no value, and thrown away. No one was ever known to get a particle of gold in any other shape or form. In Yankton the precious metal is displayed in large quantities, and represented to have been found in the Hills, which is false. It was brought from some other region to entice the men to emigrate.

On their way out to the hills, between Fort Pierre and Rapid City, one of the men of their train was killed by the Indians. His name was William Cogan, hailing from Watertown, Wisconsin. He went out with a party in front of the train of wagons, and when the rest of the party came up, his body was found lying in the road stripped of every article of clothing underneath. His corpse received a decent burial. On their return trip John Harrington, the wagon master of the train, a man by the name of Sadtler, or Wheeling, and another man, were also killed by the Indians. The latter strayed away from the train and met their fate.

During the sojourn of the Allegheny party in the Hills, they worked for thirty days at mining prices. Bacon sold for sixty-five cents a pound, flour $25 per hundred and everything else in proportion. There are about 8,000 men in the hills now and the majority of them would return, but being penniless, are compelled to remain. They cannot even get work for their board, but notwithstanding this they work for something to eat, and been refused. The Patterson party from this city are still at work in the mines, and are sorely disappointed. The Faulkner party was two weeks on the road after leaving Rapid city. Seventeen days were occupied in going from Yankton to Rapid city. The Black Hills has been found out to be a gigantic fraud, started by speculators to inveigle unsuspecting men there and then fleece them of their money by selling high priced provisions.

Mr. Faulkner gives the above information as it has been obtained by actual experience, and says he will more fully expose the fraud in a short time.

One Thousand Dollars Reward.

The Sheriff of Columbiana county, Ohio, offer a reward of $1,000, for the apprehension of Samuel Mead, twenty-seven years old, who escaped from the New Lisbon jail on the night of the 12th instant. Description: Height, 5 feet 3 or 3½ inches; weight, 115 to 125 pounds; black hair, and black eyes; age about twenty-five years; prominent check bones; chin rather sharp; beard rather thin and scattering on cheeks, and moderately heavy on chin; beard dark or black; had scar or rather a lump on left arm just above the elbow joint, caused by a cut (on the inside of the arm); had on blue sack coat, black silk cap, dark vest, and dark pants. He has two occupations, that of a miner and harness maker.

STATE NEWS.

The Hazleton *Daily Sentinel* threatens to discontinue.

Two Lancaster women have gone to law about two Maltese kittens.

Scrantonians are again talking of building a first class opera house.

The York *True Democrat* is about to try the experiment of a weekly edition.

There were fifty-eight births and forty-seven deaths in Allentown, during April.

A new Episcopal church at Upper Fairfield, Lycoming county, is to be dedicated on the 16th inst., by Bishop Howe.

Union township, Union county, has a lamb possessing five legs and two tails. It is the property of Mr. Aaron Van Buskirk.

George Dehart, of Myerstown, while planting corn, found a gold watch that had been "planted" in the ground for some time.

A child of Thomas Nealis, of Scranton, was probably fatally scalded on the 11th inst., by falling into a pot of boiling water.

Meeting of Ohio Eclectic Medical Association.

COLUMBUS, O., May 17.—The Ohio Eclectic Medical Association met here to-day, delegates being present from various portions of the State. Interesting and carefully prepared papers were read on the theory and practice of diseases of the skin, diseases of the rectum, pharmaceutical chemistry, diseases of children, and one entitled "Mental condition as a remedial agent." The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: S. H. Cotter, of Hamilton, President; H. Parker, of Delaware; W. Watkins, of Xenia, and J. C. Butcher, of Urbana, Vice Presidents; J. F. McLaughlin, of Springfield, Recording Secretary; O. E. Dillman, of West Jefferson, Corresponding Secretary, and James Anton, of Lebanon, Treasurer. A resolution was adopted urging the preparation of petitions to the General Assembly, asking that a board of health law is passed, it shall provide that all legalized schools of medicine shall be represented on that board. The convention adjourned to meet on the third Wednesday of next May.

Severe Thunder Storm in Cleveland—Several Buildings Struck by Lightning.

CLEVELAND, O., May 17.—A very severe thunder storm commenced here last evening, and continued until eleven this morning, with a heavy fall of rain. The lightning did considerable damage, setting the packing house of Hine Bros. on Superior street, on fire this morning, which was entirely destroyed. Loss not ascertained. The Standard Oil Works was also set on fire. Loss small. The spire on the German Lutheran church, corner of Erie and Bolivar streets, was struck and badly shattered. No loss of life reported.

More Murders by Indians.

LARAMIE, WY. T., May 17.—Mr. May, of Cheyenne, brings in news which he was told by a Mr. Church, that J. C. Sanders, of Cheyenne, and two others, were killed a few days ago on Sand creek near Custer. Mr. Church's informant helped to bury the three; they were not prospecting and all were scalped. Mr. Church is expected in to-day.

A Centennial Relic Worth Having

[From the Uniontown Standard.]

The Rev. Mr. Walters, Superintendent of the Soldiers' Orphan College at Dunbar's Camp, shipped 753 pounds of shells, grape shot, etc., to Pittsburgh, to be cast into a cannon, which will be fired from the summit of Dunbar's Camp, on the 4th of July. These grape-shot and pieces of shells have been collected from time to time by the orphan children, when out in their rambles for recreation. After General Braddock had been defeated, on the 9th of July, 1775—in which battle he received his death wound—there was left on that a few hours before—brilliant army retreated in the direction of Dunbar's Camp, where Colonel Dunbar then encamped. The trembling fugitives had been arriving there in a demoralized state and created a panic almost as great as that of the 9th; and when the remainder of the whites in the retired army reached there on the 11th, Colonel Dunbar did not, for a moment, consider the propriety of making a stand, but destroyed all the artillery and burned all the heavy baggage, amounting in value to upwards of $500,000. The provincial soldiers looked on in disgust, and even showed their contempt for such a piece of cowardice upon the part of Colonel Dunbar. Now, after over 120 years have elapsed, these buried relics have been unearthed to be used on the 4th of July, 1876, in proclaiming the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence. Does it not seem strange, reader, that this same cannon will be cast from material that has been lying buried from sight, long enough ashamed of the disgrace heaped upon the English army—and at a time when the provincial soldiery, with George Washington as their side-de-camp, were severally allied to the English army—is now to be used in proclaiming the anniversary of Liberty, throughout the land, from English despotism? We do not think it could be fired from a more appropriate point than the summit of Dunbar's Camp; and Mr. Walters deserves so little credit for the inception of the project and his efforts in carrying it out. The cannon should be sent to the Centennial after it has performed its first duty.

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The Sheriff of Columbiana county, Ohio, offer a reward of $1,000, for the apprehension of Samuel Mead, twenty-seven years old, who escaped from the New Lisbon jail on the night of the 12th instant. Description: Height, 5 feet 3 or 3½ inches; weight, 115 to 125 pounds; black hair, and black eyes; age about twenty-five years; prominent check bones; chin rather sharp; beard rather thin and scattering on cheeks, and moderately heavy on chin; beard dark or black; had scar or rather a lump on left arm just above the elbow joint, caused by a cut (on the inside of the arm); had on blue sack coat, black silk cap, dark vest, and dark pants. He has two occupations, that of a miner and harness maker.

WANTED, A CAMP GROUND.

The Methodists on a Tour of Observation—Two Free Excursion Trains—Proposition of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company—A Vote Taken on the Proposition to Rebuild on The Tarentum Site, &c., &c.

The 640 train Monday morning on the West Penn Railroad placed two extra cars at the disposal of the lot holders of the Tarentum Camp Meeting Ground, which were boarded by about eighty persons, who arrived at Tarentum about eight o'clock, and a half an hour later the excursionists were inspecting the ruins of the late fire, and discussing the question of rebuilding there. On the Allegheny Valley Railroad a special train of four coaches, including a palace car, left the Union Depot about seven o'clock in the morning, which contained about three hundred passengers. This train was in charge of Conductor Daniel Hines and Engineer Louis Waithour. Superintendent David McCargo was also on board, together with Mr. George W. Glass, Master Mechanic. The party were joined at Holton station by twenty-five or thirty persons from Kittanning, who also came down to view the grounds and give an expression of their views as to the propriety of rebuilding at Tarentum.

THE TRACT AT HULTON.

The grounds on the Allegheny Valley Railroad, near Hulton, embrace one of the finest of groves for camp meeting purposes. The tract has a slope to the southeast and is covered with beautiful oak, hickory, chestnut and other strong and thickly set shade trees, with an abundant supply of good soft spring water, and is within a pleasant moderate walk of the station. It is also so close to the Allegheny river as to afford opportunity for steamboat excursions during the week.

The Allegheny Valley Railroad excursion party remained on the grounds near Hulton for an hour and then took the train in waiting for the Tarentum Camp Grounds, where they arrived about noon. After partaking of refreshments a meeting of the lot holders was convened, Mr. Jacob H. Walter, President of the Tarentum Association, in the chair. President Walter stated that this was an adjourned meeting of the lot holders to hear a report from the committee appointed at a recent meeting and for such other business as might be offered.

Mr. Nobbs, chairman of the aforesaid committee, reported that they had made a survey and staked off lots, and that they recommend that all who have lots in the burnt district be permitted to select other sites outside the circle in the grove owned by the Association.

Mr. Nobbs moved that lot holders be accorded the privilege of building in such manner as they may see fit, provided they keep the water off their neighbors' premises. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Chair read a telegram from J. McC. Creighton, General Manager of the West Penn Railroad, in reference to the excursion rates to camp-meetings. These the Chair declined to furnish for publication.

A petition signed by upward of forty lot holders, asking the appointment of a committee of Trustees of the Association to meet a committee of lot holders, to arrange the difference of opinion in regard to location, was read.

Pending action on the petition, Mr. McEldowny moved to reconsider the action on the motion made at the last meeting to build on the Tarantum site. Carried.

A PROPOSITION.

John M. Irwin, Esq., then presented the following proposition.

To the Committee of the Camp Meeting Association of the M. E. Church:

GENTLEMEN—Should the committee decide to purchase ground on the line of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, I will be content to transport all building material for the association or lot holders, on one of my cars, free of charge. It will carry free all ministers visiting the camp. It will stop at the camp ground for all excursions that pass that point. It is now running sixteen passenger trains daily, each way, between Pittsburgh and West Penn Junction, all of which leave and arrive from the Union Depot. Patronize me, and I engage to run minutes at the Union Depot cannot fail to be appreciated by the lot holders, on account of its convenience of access from the city of Pittsburgh, South Pittsburgh, East Liberty, Allegheny City and the surrounding boroughs.

The scenery along the route is unparalleled for beauty. The location at Arnold Park, in particular, would, by the proximity to the Allegheny river, afford the recreation of boating and fishing to the camp visitors.

The Allegheny Valley Railroad is double-tracked a greater part of the distance, and, being ballasted with broken stone, is perfectly free from dust. Our passenger trains are equipped with the Westinghouse air brake, and the Miller platform, and our coaches are of the most approved construction.

Visitors at the Allegheny Valley Park (is the point finally selected) can avail themselves of our monthly 54-trip tickets at $8 50; or of our 25-trip tickets, good for a time within the year, when used by any member of the family, employee or friend of the lot holder of such ticket, of the same character, at $6. We will sell during the camp meeting season single round trip tickets between Pittsburgh and Arnold Park at 75 cents each. Should any other point on the line of our road be selected, proportionate rates will be given.

The very low rates above quoted would place it within the power of every lot holder, under ordinate circumstances to make frequent visits to the camp ground, and they cannot fail to be appreciated by such visitors.

The management of this company will always be pleased to lend the most reasonable accommodations to the association, should it select grounds along the line of our road, and we believe that the permanency of the association will be better united in all respects, if their place of meeting is so located, than they would be if it should be changed from time of any other road leading from the city.

Yours, respectfully, JOHN M. IRWIN,
General Superintendent A. V. R. R.

The proposition was received and filed, together with a communication from Mr. Irwin, offering to reduce the fare from the station from fifty cents to twenty-five cents the round trip.

The reading of the resolution passed at the last meeting calling for a vote, the Secretary compiled with the demand, as follows:

Resolved, That we go to work at once to have the grounds surveyed and staked off for cottages.

An animated discussion took place, in which the following persons participated: J. Shatterly, John Kennedy, Larden, Jas. No. 98 Rost, McKinney, Wm. Boyd, Jacob Peters, Jacob, J. M. Irwin, J. D. Weeks, Rev. Robt. Hamilton, John G. Mathews, General Anderson and others.

On the resolution to rebuild at Tarentum the yeas and nays were called for, with the following result, the Secretary recording:

YEAS—Mrs. M. A. Cramer, J. H. Noble Sade Emery, W. H. Cramer, J. H. Noble, Mrs. Jackson, G. W. Dobbs, S. M. Sterling, J. H. Walter, John Kennedy, Wm. Freeman, Wm. Larden, Jas. Rost, Jacob Peters, Jacob Clows, James Parker, J. Kennedy, John Eakey, M. Wilson, Wm. Boyd, R. S. Bingham, W. A. Fox, R. Westervelt, James Kennedy, J. R. Shinn, J. Turner, H. Beaver, H. Hemphill, Dr. Rogers, Wm. Dilworth, Mrs. Dilworth, Dike, J. E. Anderson, Freeport Parsonage, J. Dickson, Mrs. R. Hamilton, Mrs. A. Aughinbaugh, W. W. Boup, L. W. Lewis, A. Lewis, W. A. Lewis, Dr. Alter, Wm. Wood, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Larden, Anderson, Wm. Simmons, J. McGraw, Wm. Adams, A. F. Gibson, George Corbett, James A. Kerr, Joseph Miller, J. Boyd, D. Peters, James Sterling, D. Walaker, F. D. Walaker, A. Ekas, M. Leslie, Thomas George, W. Fleming, Mrs. Evans, John Reddy—64.

NAYS—James Cirnie, W. F. Taylor, J. G. Matthews, Bob McGlowney, S. A. Sheppard, Mrs. C. Brown, Thomas Dickson, Mrs. H. McKinney, J. H. Walter, Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Stewart, J. E. Barr, Jane Cooper, S. Hamilton, E. T. Cassidy, Rev. W. Darby, G. W. Haslett, James Gage, W. A. Stewart, Mrs. Thompson, Simpsonge—W. G. Hoover, James Dickson, Albert Stone, H. Sample, Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Henry, G. M. Fox, E. Smyth, Wm. Yankirk, J. Shutterly, A. M. Ingram, J. M. Haney, Rev. J. Core, Christ Gerhart, Mrs. Gerhart, Mrs. Shea, J. Darrah, S. Chadwick, J. H. Bascom, Joseph Horne, John Fulton, Mrs. Fulton, Mrs. Thompson, S. M. Kier, J. H. Stuart, W. H. Burger, Wm. Clark, J. B. Canfield, D. Darrah, J. D. Weeks, Mrs. Robinson—50.

The number of lot holders not present was 28.

Those whose who voted against rebuilding were requested to tarry for a conference. This meeting adopted a resolution that a committee of Conference, consisting of five persons, to meet a like committee of trustees, to report at a meeting the same day, to be held after the conference. The committees consist of the following persons:

Lot holders—R. McEldowney, J. G. Matthews, W. Yankirk, G. M. Fox, S. Chadwick.

Trustees—Jacob H. Walter, Jacob Jackson, R. S. McCall, W. A. Lewis, J. V. Harris.

This committee, on motion, was requested to report on Monday next, the 22d inst., at the camp ground, at 10:30 A. M., and all who favor rebuilding at Tarentum are requested to be present.

The committee will also meet on Wednesday, 17th inst., at 2 P. M., at the Diamond street church.

While the Allegheny Valley Railroad train was homeward bound a subscription paper was circulated, and $2,200 subscribed toward the purchase of the site, probably the Arnold Park location, and there will be a meeting in the Smithfield street Methodist Episcopal church, on Friday evening, to consider the matter.

A slight accident occurred by the upsetting of a skiff, by which Charles Brown, wife and two or three others were thrown into the river, escaping, however, with a fright and ducking.

Congressional Canvass, Twenty-Second District.

The following article appeared editorially, in the *Chronicle* of Thursday last. That paper is well known for its conservative tone in dealing with all questions which it discusses, and its opinions are entitled to great weight:

The canvass for the Twenty-second Congressional district which has been spirited from the outset, is fast assuming a phase showing less elements of uncertainty. The return of Major Errett to the city, and the unstirring efforts of his friends, indicate, beyond all doubt, that he will be renominated. Major Errett's services in Congress, as General Negley's have not been little by any means, and the General's experience, and popularity, are factors in the contest for Congressional honors that Major Errett's friends wisely refrained from discounting; but notwithstanding the General's familiarity with the battle ground, he has experienced drawbacks in the canvass such as we are sure Major Errett would not encounter. The chances at this writing point to his opponent as the general choice, but we think this must still be conceded by all in any degree familiar with the canvass.

"A Drop of Joy in Every Word."

FLEMINGTON, HUNTERDON CO., N. J., June 26, 1874.

DR. R. V. PIERCE, Buffalo, N. Y.—*Dear Sir:* It is with a happy heart that I pen these lines to acknowledge that your Golden Medical Discovery and Purgative Pellets are blessings to the world. These medicines cannot be too highly praised, for they have almost brought me out of the grave. Three months ago I was broken out with large ulcers and sores on my body, limbs and face. I procured your Golden Medical Discovery and Purgative Pellets, and have taken six bottles, and to-day I am in good health, all those ugly ulcers having healed and left my skin in a state of healthy condition. I thought at one time I could not be cured. Although I can but poorly express my gratitude to you, yet there is a drop of joy in every word I write, and God's blessing rest on you and your wonderful medicines is the humble prayer of

Yours truly,
JAMES O. BELLIS.

When a medicine will promptly cure such terrible eating ulcers and free the blood of the virulent poison causing them, who can longer doubt its wonderful virtues? Dr. Pierce, however, does not wish to place his Golden Medical Discovery in the catalogue of quack patent nostrums by recommending it to cure every disease by recommending it to cure every disease by recommending it to cure every disease

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

THE foreign exports from Philadelphia, last week, amounted to $444,630.

THE total value of the exports from Boston during the month of April was $3,559,379—the largest in one month in the history of that port.

THE foreign imports at Boston, last week, amounted to $883,153. The total imports thus far this year foot up $12,195,068, a decrease of $6,073,138 from the corresponding period last year.

THE New Testament Revision Committee have finally resolved to reject the last seven verses of the last chapter of the Gospel of St. Mark as spurious, and it is stated that the same course has been taken with a verse in one of the Epistles, which has hitherto been relied upon as the chief support of the doctrine of the Trinity.

ACCORDING to Democratic estimates, the expense of securing a seat in the United States Senate from a Democratic Legislature in Connecticut is put down at $40,000. ENGLISH bought up the popular vote for members of the Legislature. BARNUM waited until the matter was so far decided, and then bought the legislators themselves.

PROVISION has been made at the Centennial for 10,000,000 visitors—9,400,000 more than went to the International Exhibition in New York in 1853; 5,465,536 more than went to the International Exhibition in Paris in 1855; 3,830,000 more than went to the International Exhibition in London in 1851, and 2,745,133 more than went to the International Exhibition in Vienna in 1873.

IT IS now stated that one reason for postponing the delivery of the decision on the Granger cases, which it is understood the United States Supreme Court has agreed upon, is that the Presidential chances of any candidate upon the Supreme Bench may not be injured. It is quite generally understood, however, that the decision is adverse to the constitutionality of the PORTER law.

IF RUSSIA should carry out that grand Yankee engineering project of linking the Black and Caspian seas by a canal between the tributaries of the Manytch and Kouma rivers—and she seems to look upon it with a considerable degree of favor—the resulting means of concentrating her fleet will double her naval importance, and make her invincible in that quarter.

ENGLAND killed 1,290 persons on her railroads last year; making three and a half a day, including Sundays, besides seriously injuring no less than 5,755 more, or sixteen a day. A large proportion of these disasters was unquestionably owing to the overcrowding of freight and passenger traffic. There is only one hundred and fifty miles of four tracked road in the United Kingdom.

THE closing months of President GRANT's second term, whose first had such a glorious beginning, are certainly not of the most pleasant character, and it is not strange that he is anxious to be rid of the responsibilities and vexations attendant on life at the White House. "In less than ten months," he said to a Senator, the other day, "my term of office will expire, and I shall again be a private citizen. I count the intervening days with the same pleasure that I used, when a graduating class at West Point, to count the days that must pass before I would receive my diploma and leave the Academy."

A RUMOR is current in Washington, said to be well authenticated, that TILDEN, who is a rich man without heirs, is ready to spend one million dollars in case he can obtain the Democratic nomination. This is more than Judge DAVIS will pledge; but it is apparent, also, that his whole heart is in the contest, and that, like HORACE GREELEY, he is willing to spend large sums in securing his nomination and election. This unscrupulous introduction of the selfish money power in the Presidential canvass is unqualifiedly a national scandal, and marks a stage in the degradation of Democratic politics never reached before.

THE statistics of the foreign commerce of New York for April, just published, show a continued depression. The total imports for the month were only $23,804,232, compared with $30,000,000 in April, 1875, and nearly $41,000,000 for the corresponding month in 1874. Since the beginning of the year the loss is $17,500,000, compared with the first four months of 1875. The exports for April, exclusive of specie, were $22,179,363, a decrease of $1,500,000 compared with April, last year. The *Journal of Commerce* says truly:

"There is some expectation that the exports will gain a little from this date through the increased demand for our breadstuffs abroad, but the hope is not of any immediate rally in the imports, although, as we are now comparing with a very depressed period in each of the last two years, the decline may be less noticeable from this date."

IT IS now generally believed that the United States Senate will dismiss the BELKNAP impeachment case for want of jurisdiction. At all events the leakings run strongly that way. Should that body refuse to assume jurisdiction of the case, it will show more fully than ever the utter incapacity of the Democratic party to manage affairs with wisdom. As the case stands, indeed, there never has been a more atrocious attempt to deceive a whole people and gain a partisan end by a monstrous exaggeration than is presented as the matter is set forth now by the House itself. Never was such a case of going in at the big and coming out at the little end of a horn. Never was solemn tragedy metamorphosed into such roaring farce, such bare-legged burlesque. And this is the great case, the crowning opportunity of Democratic statesmanship!

THE ex-guerilla BLACKBURN, of Kentucky, a member of CLYMER's extinguished Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, while passing through the rich counties of Ohio and Lancaster, on the Congressional excursion train to the Centennial Exhibition, remarked to a party of suppressed traitors like himself, "This is a beautiful country, rich in food for an army. Here is where we cast our longing eyes during the war. We wanted to have some of this milk and honey; to pitch our tents in these fertile valleys and to live on the country." A Pennsylvanian, hearing this Copperhead, retorted: "And yes, sir, if such fellows as you had come into these rich valleys, these farmers of Lancaster would have given you powder and lead for milk and honey, and as beautiful a grave as the sun ever shone upon, covered with a top dressing of six feet of as rich soil as ever grew a crop." This miserable remnant of the thieving guerilla bands of Kentucky, and fugleman of the Democrats in Congress, yet had the impudence to accept the hospitalities of a citizen of Pennsylvania.

THE pith of General PLEASANTON's purported new discovery concerning light and heat is, that light is matter, which, passing through ether, also matter, at the rate of 186,000 miles a second, produces electricity by means of the enormous friction. This electricity and resultant magnetism is the great natural force of growth. Heat is generated from light, but not a necessary attendant. The sun is not hot, according to General PLEASANTON; if it were, it would not be able to send any of its heat to the earth through a space of 92,000,000 of miles of ether. But a correspondent of the Springfield *Republican* shows that this notion is an absurdity. For if the sun is cold and has power to shoot out matter as though it were a bullet from a gun, the further it went the hotter it would become from friction. A ray, in passing to us from a star, would become as much hotter than a like ray from the sun, as the star is further off than the sun. According to this theory, the fixed stars would be scorching droplets of unendurable heat.

THE Indianapolis *Journal* makes a startling exposure of the reckless extravagance and scandalous practices of the Democratic Supreme Court of Indiana. Summarizing the result, it appears that the miscellaneous expenses of the court from 1871 to 1875, inclusive, were $63,811 62, not including the salaries of the judges and clerk. This is at the rate of $12,762 a year for the personal and miscellaneous expenses of the judges. From the 1st of November, 1871, to the 1st of November, 1875, the court paid for female help $2,439 18. During the same period the court paid for goods from carpet houses, including carpets, carpet linings, carpet borders, matting, rugs, window blinds, fixtures, etc., the round sum of $2,231 31; for goods from stove dealers, $949 20; for furniture and furnishings, $723 12, etc., while even the dirty linen of these Democratic dispensers of justice has been washed at a cost of over $3,600 to the people's treasury. These men have all been nominated for re election to the exalted position they have thus scandalized by their extravagance and corruption. Such are the features of Democratic "reform."

PREVENTIVE CURATIVES.

The restless spirit of the French people requires constant attention. To prevent the conflict which is sure to follow where extreme opinions have been suffered to influence the masses, is the work of the statesmen and rulers of France. The well-known tendency of the people to run into extremes, has taught the necessity of applying a remedy at the proper time. Just now the country seems to have reached a crisis, and it becomes important to divert the public mind from the questions of Ultramontanism on the one hand, and Radicalism on the other. It is asserted that Ultramontanism already reigns supreme in the French church, and seeks to extend its influence over the whole population; and that, as regards politics, Radicalism now assumes to have the control in the administration of affairs. Under this state of things, in a country like France, it would not be long until moderate parties were effectually crushed out. Then would follow bitter hostility, if not open conflict between the extremes of Ultramontanism and Radicalism. The rulers have been watching this reactionary sentiment with absorbing interest, and are preparing to keep it within safe bounds. People are best kept out of mischief when they are furnished with employment at fair living wages. When they have plenty to eat and wear, they are not so apt to be carried away by appeals to their passions or prejudices. Acting upon these common sense views, a scheme of internal improvement has been devised, involving the expenditure of $25,000,000. This large sum is principally to be expended in the city of Paris, in the building of quays, the continuation of avenues and boulevards, the erection of public buildings, bridges, etc., and the multiplication of squares and statues wherever practicable. While these grand improvements are giving employment to thousands of workmen, their thoughts will be turned in the direction of a peaceful support of the Republic, and they will entertain more friendly feelings for one another. Their surplus excitement will be expended in honest toil; and, laboring together for their own benefit and the glory of Paris, they will have no disposition to take one another by the throat. But this is not all: a decree has gone forth for a grand exposition at Paris, in 1878, on a scale of greater magnitude than that of 1867, the buildings alone costing $6,000,000, a part of which is to be furnished by the Government. It is thought the public improvements will not be completed for two years, and then Paris, always attractive, will be grander than ever, and will readily attract the visitors from the whole civilized world. There is a boldness in these schemes worthy of admiration; we might say, emulation. Our own Government might take a hint from the French, and start the lagging industries of the nation by aiding the completion of those two great national highways of traffic, the Northern and Texas Pacific Railroads. The improvement of the Ohio river might also engage more earnestly the attention of Congress, and, by the prosecution of these various works, the country would be lifted from the dead level of stagnation and placed again upon the high road to prosperity. The prosecution of these projects are not essential in order to secure the peace of the country, as in the case of France; but that they would tend to relieve us of the fearful depression which has fallen upon our industries, cannot admit of question.

THE TARIFF ON WOOL.

The wool growers of Southwestern Pennsylvania and Ohio may be desirous to know a little more how the Chairman of the Democratic House of Representatives' Committee on Ways and Means proposes to treat their interests, if he can press to a passage his nondescript bill to revise and simplify existing laws imposing duties on imports and reducing taxation. He is evidently not satisfied that the worthless curs of the neighborhood are hard enough on the wool interests, but now seeks to inflict the additional calamity of a Democratic anti-tariff bill. The following are the items relating to wools, now divided into three classes, to wit:

First class—Clothing wools, present duty, costing thirty-two cents or less, ten cents per pound and eleven per cent. *ad valorem*, Morrison's bill makes the duty six cents per pound and takes off all the *ad valorem* duty. The same class, costing over thirty-two cents per pound, present duty twelve cents per pound and ten per cent. *ad valorem*, Morrison's bill makes the duty six cents per pound and takes off all the *ad valorem* duty.

Second class—Combing wools, present duty, costing thirty-two cents or less, ten cents per pound and seven per cent. *ad valorem*, Morrison's bill makes the duty five cents per pound only. Costing over thirty-two cents, present duty twelve cents per pound and ten per cent. *ad valorem*, Morrison makes the duty ten cents per pound only.

Third class—Carpet wools, present duty, costing one shilling sterling or more per pound, three cents per pound; and costing over twelve cents, the present duty is six cents per pound. Morrison's bill assesses a duty of three cents per pound, regardless of cost.

The above rates are prices paid for the wools exclusive of charges at the last port of actual exportation to the United States.

It will be observed that all the *ad valorem* duties are taken off and the specific duties reduced.

On flannels or clothing wools, forty and twenty per cent. below present rates; on second class combing wools, the proposed reduction is fifty and twenty per cent. On third class, carpet wools of the better grade, the proposed reduction is fifty per cent.

American wool-growers are largely interested in clothing wools, very considerably in combing wools, but none at all in carpet wools.

THE Washington correspondent of the Troy *Times*, in his last letter to that paper, indulges in an elaborate and searching analysis of the principal results of Democratic rule in Congress, this session. Briefly summarized, they are these: The Election Committee has seated Democratic contestants without regard to evidence, law, justice or equity. The only question has been "which is our rascal?" and the action of the committee in this respect tends to confirm the report, prevalent at the time, that the National Democratic Committee, directly after the Congressional elections, last fall, notified all defeated Democratic candidates to contest their seats, whenever it was possible to find a technical ground for contest, and that means would be furnished by that committee to carry on the contest if necessary. This points to the possibility that the Lower House may be called upon to elect the President of the United States. The committee has certainly acted in accordance with that principle. The Committee on Ways and Means has manipulated a motley nondescript tariff bill, which nobody expects to become a law, and has besides attempted two or three petty investigations. The Committee on Banking and Currency, owing to Democratic timidity on finance, has done nothing but report a bill, which was defeated, and to report a resolution for the further distribution of $10,000,000 silver coin. The Claims Committee has been industriously looking after Southern claims, but has withheld most of its favorable reports—until after the Presidential election. The Postoffice Committee has been engaged in a contemptible and partisan investigation, but has found absolutely nothing against any public officer, although it has expended for witnesses a very large sum. The District of Columbia Committee has been reopening the old questions of jobbery, which were so fully examined in the last Republican Congress, and as the result of which the authors of the jobbery have been punished. The Judiciary Committee has had everything to attend to but its legitimate pursuits. It had the investigation of KING and SCHUMAKER, charged with bribery in connection with the Pacific Mail, but the committee has not had the courage to report that they ought to be punished, because the Democratic rascal is the bigger one. The Committee on Agriculture abandoned its specific pursuits, and undertook to discover evil deeds in the Agricultural Department; but came back empty handed. The Indian Committee has spent most of its time in rummaging the frontier States and Territories for scandal and the tittle-tattle of camps. The Military Committee has been compelled to confine its time to the investigation of charges against its own clerk, and has finally dismissed the charges and the clerk together, as the scandal was likely to become too grave. The Naval Committee has been examining all winter old bunker officers in the service, who have never been favorable to the Administration, many discharged laborers and mechanics, disreputable lobby brokers and infamous women, with the intention of finding an indictment of impeachment against the Secretary of the Navy, and to-day the leaders in this scandal-hunt admit that there is not a tittle of evidence on record tending to show a dishonest act on the part of that officer. The Committee on Foreign Affairs has spent its time in investigating General SCHENCK, and in bulling and bearing the Emma mine. It has also been magnanimous enough to refuse a brave naval officer permission to accept a medal from a foreign government, for which he had rendered distinguished service. The Committee on Territories has been endeavoring to make a new State of New Mexico, in the firm belief that the old Spanish Roman Catholic element there will give the Democrats two new Senators. The Public Buildings Committee has been endeavoring to discover fraudulent contracts in connection with the construction of public buildings, but thus far without results. The Printing Committee has been investigating the Public Printer, in the interest of the RIVES brothers, the publishers of the *Congressional Globe*, who have already made one fortune out of the Government, and wish to renew the printing contract to make another. The CLYMER committee broke its faith, and presented a Secretary for impeachment. The Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department has been seeking to ruin the President by the evidence of an escaped lunatic, with his spirit bride. The CAULFIELD committee, in searching for scandal everywhere, found "little JOHNNY DAVENPORT," and caught a Tartar. The Real Estate Pool Committee, after sending HALLETT KILBOURNE to jail, hoping to "catch the President," found that there was nothing to "catch," and then refused to examine KILBOURNE's books. These records of the House committees show their work. Perhaps the Democrats imagine that stuff of this sort make Presidents. The people, however, think otherwise.

AT THE November elections, this year, there will be fifty Senators and 201 Representatives in the Legislature to elect, in this State. It is the first election in which the provisions of the Constitution relative to the Senate can go into effect. The purpose of that instrument is to elect a full House and one-half of the Senate every two years; but as the old Senators, at the time the Constitution was adopted, held over for one, two and three years, it was found impossible to put the four-year Senatorial terms in force until the end of all the old three years' terms. That could not happen until 1876. With the final adjournment of the last Legislature the terms of *all* the Senators expired, and at the ensuing election Senators will be elected from the *even* numbered districts for *two* years and from the *old* numbered districts for *four* years. In 1878, Senators will be chosen from the even numbered districts for four years, and thenceforward one-half of the Senate will be elected every two years, for terms of four years each.

The Allegheny county Senatorial districts are the 42d, 43d, 44th and 45th. The 42d and 44th will elect Senators for two years and the 43d and 45th for four years. The 42d is Mr. MCNEILL's district, and consists mainly of Allegheny city. The 44th is Mr. NEWMEYER's districts, and consists of the Sixteenth to the Twenty-second wards of the city, and all the boroughs and townships between the rivers and those north of the Allegheny, except a few in the 42d. The 43d is now represented by Mr. ANDERSON, consisting of the First to the Fifteenth and Twenty-third wards. The 45th is now represented by Dr. WOOD, and takes in all of the South Side.

As this is a Presidential election, the vote is likely to be full, and party lines will be pretty tightly drawn. With ordinary good luck, backed up by good nominations, the Republicans should gain a Senator in Dr. WOOD's district (45th), in Mr. ROCKWELL's district, Bradford and Wyoming; in Mr. DILL's district, Union, Snyder and Northumberland; in Mr. BECHTEL's district, the Twenty-ninth, consisting of the Republican part of Schuylkill; and in Mr. MCKIBBEN's district, Huntingdon and Franklin—in all five. They may possibly lose the Montgomery district, now represented by Mr. YENKEL and the Blair and Cambria district; but if Mr. LEMON runs again in the latter he is pretty sure of a re-election, and a good candidate will have a fair chance of success in Montgomery. Allowing both to be against us, the Republicans will gain three, and the next Senate will then stand thirty-two Republican to eighteen Democratic.

In the election for Representatives the Republicans stand fair to gain one in the Ninth district, Philadelphia; one in Allegheny city; six in Pittsburgh; three in the Fifth and Sixth districts of Allegheny county; one in Beaver; one in Blair; one in Bradford; one in Butler; three in Crawford; one in Erie; two in Delaware; two in Franklin; one in Huntingdon; two in Lancaster; one in Potter; two in Tioga, and two in Washington—in all thirty-one. They will probably lose two in Wayne; one in Northumberland; and one in Montour—in all four. Lancaster city and Harrisburg, now Republican, are both close, and so is Reading, now Democratic. Making all allowances for contingencies, the Republican gains are not likely to be less than twenty, which would make the House stand one hundred and ten Republican to ninety Democratic; but the figures may, with a feeling approaching to confidence, be put down at one hundred and fifteen to eighty-six.

The blunder of 1874, which inflicted upon the State the disgrace of the late Democratic House will not be repeated. One experiment of that kind is enough. The next Legislature will be Republican in both branches, and it is safe to predict it will get through its work without becoming a standing and perpetual reproach.

AN EVENING contemporary suggests that it is "rather rough" to expel FITZHUGH, the Doorkeeper of the House, for the crime of writing a letter full of misspelling and vanity. It does look that way, particularly as his record of indictment in Kentucky for perjury, larceny and conspiracy was overlooked by the Confederate majority. They could forgive him for being a felon, but not for being a fool. There is no help for him now. Of course his success must be a reliable exponent of Democratic culture, principles and designs. We therefore suggest the name of "AUGUSTUS E. WEBER, Esq.," of Altoona, Iowa, as that of a man eminently worthy of stepping into the vacant shoes of FITZHUGH, whom in many respects he closely resembles. That he is a complete letter writer will be seen from the following communication to the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, which that journal reproduces exactly as it was received, profanity, orthography, punctuation and all:

ALTOONA, State of Iowa, April 29, '76.

Sir I have been reading your paltry sheet for about 1 year And during that time I have never read such infamous lies as are weekly printed in your paper to convince Republicans of the refractory nature of suthern Democrats I have taken many Republican papers before But you out distance them all in bare faced lying It is considered as a rule I believe in official lying to attempt to adduce some evidence in support of them But in your case in every Lie which you concoct there is not enough evidence to cover a single point But in none of your falsification does it appear so infamous as in the case of Mississippi For if the bloody murders which you reported occurred there A reliable friend And a present citizen of that state Informs me he has heard from reliable sources That they were but 20 murders commited since 1874 And I defy you to prove otherwise The sending of the Idiot Sheridan there was but an outcropping of Grants caesaristic tendencies Sir I am a democrat And I am proud to acknowledge it And before the commencement of 1877 it will be considered an honor over the entire Union And the Republican party will be a thing of the past And sir before the war I was a slaveholder in the before mentioned state And of every slave of which I was deprived by the Union troops and of every dollars worth of propperty destroyed I expect full compensation for by a bill which will be Walks for every Southern slaveholder which shall be passed by a democratic Congress senate and President There will be a time when the war will be considered a disaster instead of a triumph over suthern liberty And such lying Periodicals as your own will not be known to exist Sir I came North to escape the insults of D D Niggers freed from my subordination by that MISCREANT Lincoln For I no more consider him my equal than the meanest beast of the forest And even here in the North This abode of D. D. yankees I have seen as much repugnance shown to their society As in any part of the south And I doubt not sir that you the Nigger loving Adorable Benafactors of your black visaged peers if riding in one of the vehicles which perambulates your streets would Not deign to sit beside one if riding in the same coach with yourself which plainly shows your D D affectation yours as ever the scourge of all liars Augustus E Weber Esq

THE most disgraceful contest for a United States Senatorship ever witnessed in this country, was brought to a close in Connecticut on Wednesday by the nomination of Congressman BARNUM over Senator ENGLISH. Both of these Democratic candidates were millionaires, and both had bought the office, and paid for it, and were desperately in earnest to get it. The friends of ENGLISH boasted that he had given to the party $21,500 this year, giving first $16,000 and then $10,000 for State distribution, besides $1,500 for exclusive use by the local committee in New Haven. BARNUM's friends retorted by claiming that he had almost "double discounted" ENGLISH every year, and that to him more than to any other man was the late uprising of the Democracy in that State due. Neither candidate had any decent qualifications for the position, and the State has been disgraced by their respective "claims" and their ferocious fight. The New York *Times* said, on the day on which the nomination was made:

"From the time these two men came into prominence the Democratic party of Connecticut has depended upon Jim Bags for success, and when it is considered how well the party organization was maintained in spite of the disadvantages of its position during the war, its present control of all the State departments is not to be wondered at. Fortified during the last few years with an abundance of purchasing material, while the Republicans have hardly been able to raise money enough to pay ordinary campaign expenses, the party was bound to come to power, and now comes the question of rewarding the benefactors—English and Barnum. The opportunity of making a return for favors received has accrued to the majority of selecting a candidate for United States Senator, and these two men are now before the Democratic members of the Legislature, each claiming the prize as a compensation for supplying a corruption fund to carry the State in the interest of true reform. The partisans of both base their appeals for support wholly on the money issue. No other candidates are even thought of. Men of ability and high character like Governor Ingersoll, Hon. Richard D. Hubbard, Hon. Edward W. Seymour, and others who might be named, are out of the question. Never has there been such an open confession of dependence upon the money power as this contest reveals, and a disgraceful confession it is. The party that makes it shows its utter unworthiness of the respect of honest men, and betrays the shallowness of its own pretenses to be a party of reform. Neither Barnum nor English is fit man to hold a seat in the Senate of the United States, if judged by the standard of purity in politics or a respectable order of statesmanship, and it is to be devoutly wished that the defeat of both candidates will have a moral effect at this time, when the people everywhere are demanding honest and true men for offices, which will be unanswering to the Democratic party in the country at large."

OUR short paragraph of yesterday about the decision of the revisers of the Bible, to exclude all of the last chapter of Mark, from the 8th verse, as spurious, and also the 7th verse of the 5th chapter of I John, is likely to be misunderstood. For the last half century, verses 9—20 of the last chapter of Mark have been considered by Biblical scholars as an addition to the original narrative of MARK; and while some have considered them spurious, others have regarded them as genuine, and placed as the last part of Deuteronomy, which is known to have been added to the original narrative of MOSES. The preponderance of opinion is to this latter view, and the revisers have probably treated the addition to Mark *as* an addition, but still a part of the inspired record. The verse in ST. JOHN's epistle has always been treated as an explanatory interpolation by some early transcriber, or as having been first put on the margin as an explanation and afterwards incorporated in the text. The revisers have probably restored it to the margin, where it belongs.

The action of the Board of Revision in these as probably in several other cases, does not imply that any part of the New Testament, as we now have it, is spurious. For many years past, the investigations of scholars have pointed out a small number of errors which have crept into the sacred text through the mistakes and blunders of those who transcribed the New Testament in early times. None of these errors has been found to be of any serious importance; and the scholars who are now devoting themselves to a revision of the text of the Bible have conformed their work to the well-ascertained results reached by Biblical critics during the present century. The religious world may rest easy in the conviction that they have found nothing spurious in the text of the New Testament, in the proper sense of that term, and that their action has been confined to the correction of verbal errors and the restoration of the original text free from the mistakes of early transcribers. When their work is published it will be found to be essentially and in nearly all respects the same as the work of the translators of the popular version.

THE Chicago *Tribune* has an article which gives some interesting and important statistics about silver and what becomes of it. The annual product has increased gradually but largely in the United States since 1870, but it has remained about the same in Mexico, South America and other countries. The latest and largest annual product was about $80,000,000, with an average annual production during the last five years of about $68,500,000. Of this, India and the East have absorbed on an average $35,500,000, leaving $35,000,000 to be cared for by other countries. This production did not seem to be excessive although it very demonetized silver, and suddenly threw about $200,000,000 of silver on the market. This unusual surplus, along with the proportionate absorption of gold in Germany to take the place of the demonetized silver, and the increased product of our American mines, occasioned a remarkable decrease in the gold value, which was accelerated by the panicky feeling resulting upon the marked change in values. The *Tribune* thinks this depreciation is nearly at an end, never to now worth a couple of cents more per ounce than it was just after the German demonetization, and the prospect is now that, without any other unusual disturbance in the market, it will continue to enhance in value. The testimony of Senator JONES, of Nevada, an expert, is to the effect that the exhaustion of the principal American mines now operated can already be foreseen, and the present indications from the Pacific coast in mining stocks confirm the statement. Meanwhile, the commercial uses for silver will undoubtedly increase, so that there is no reason to apprehend a very long duration of the present depression.

THE public schools of this country are the fundamental support of the Republic, and of the well-being of the nation generally. They are really at the bottom of most of our scientific progress, and our success in commercial, manufacturing and agricultural enterprises. Hence the hostility manifested toward the public school system in those Southern States in which the Democracy have obtained control of the local governments seems incomprehensible. Indeed, even, that those States are poor, and that there is an imperative demand for the practice of the most rigid economy; nevertheless there is plenty of room for economy in almost every family so as to enable them to pay their school taxes. There are also many other fields in the administration of public affairs in which economy might be introduced to advantage. There are other causes of high taxes than our public school system. For instance, the prosecution and punishment of crime, which our public schools try to lessen by teaching honesty, truth, science and skill. Those States are doing the most foolish thing in the world in crippling their public schools for the sake of saving a few dollars. In these institutions are accumulated a treasury belonging to the whole nation, and the money expended for it still remains in the country. Rather should it be the aim of every State, instead of lessening their powers for good, to so increase their opportunities of usefulness as to become a blessing to all, rich and poor.

THE Centennial Exposition, if it accomplishes nothing else, will at least show to the world that we have made wonderful progress in art-culture within the last few years. The fact is already established that we rank with the best artists of the Old World in many branches of the fine arts which have been made specialties with them for generations, and in which it has been contended we could not compete. As a nation we have been regarded as too practical and too utilitarian ever to cultivate the esthetic. Our worship of the almighty dollar, it was thought, would lead us to turn the cold shoulder to the beautiful. But this is not true; accumulation has led us to the cultivation of artistic taste, and to-day the American people are the most liberal patrons of art that can be found anywhere. This implies culture and refined tastes. While these should always accompany wealth, they are by no means dependent upon it. Here education, culture and refinement are free to call, while in Europe they belong to a class. Consequently here we have a dozen patrons of art to one in Europe. Patronage begets development; hence we have in the United States to-day some of the best artists and artisans to be found in the world; while, still further, an art once planted among us, our native workmen soon become the most skilled in exercising it, bringing to it not only mechanical skill, but intelligence and invention, a capacity to grasp all that is known, and a determination to go beyond that, and develop new features.

THE New York *Bulletin* lately received a sample of India wheat which represents ten thousand quarters of Bombay white wheat, purchased in Liverpool last fall. The editor has submitted the specimen to one of the best judges on the New York Produce Exchange, who gives the following account of its qualities and relative value, and of those grades of American wheat which come nearest to it:

"The sample submitted is commercially a *soft wheat*, probably raised from Spanish or Hungarian seed. American soft white wheat is raised in Michigan, Indiana, and to a small extent in Wisconsin; but this wheat is not *as soft* as the production of those States. Soft white wheat is also raised in Kentucky, and is very similar to that of the before-named States. Soft white wheat is also raised in Virginia and Missouri; but while it is of the soft variety, the production of these latter States is much *harder* than that of the former, and in addition to *starch*, contains a large amount of *gluten*, which adds largely to its value. The Bombay wheat apparently resembles closely Virginia or Mississippi wheat. To decide whether it has gluten like those wheats requires a microscopic examination of a section of a grain, or an examination by an expert of the meal from it, combined with water. Growing in a warm climate, it would deem the presence of the desirable *gluten* highly probable. Its commercial value equals the very best American wheat, say $1 50 per sixty lbs, to-day."

STATE NEWS.

Wilkesbarre has had a case of infanticide.

There were twenty-one deaths in Reading, last week.

Governor Hartranft's family will reside in Norristown during the summer.

Mrs. Margaret Jones died suddenly in Scranton, on the 10th inst,, of heart disease.

Three kittens born at Tionesta are joined together after the manner of the Siamese twins.

John McKinney, of Clay township, Butler county, was one hundred years old on the 8th inst.

The home of Charles Fechter, the actor, in Richland, Bucks county, will be sold by the Sheriff.

A large deposit of manganese was discovered in sinking a well in Upper Saucon, Lehigh county.

Mr. Kinsey, aged eighty-four, still works as a street repairsman in Easton, and does a fair day's work.

"Uncle Davy" Smith, of Franklin, aged ninety-one, has decided to visit the Centennial, and will start in a few days.

A girl of twelve years, named Messed, was run over by the cars in Scranton, on the 10th inst., and instantly killed.

Erie county has enough money on hand to pay every dollar she owes, and still have a small balance in the treasury.

Although Philadelphia has been crowded with strangers during the week, the theaters have been poorly patronized.

A yearling Cotswold sheep belonging to R. A. Crowl, of New London, Chester county, yielded wool eleven inches long.

Two young children of Casper Von Alt, of Cambria borough, died from malignant fever on the 10th inst., within a few hours.

One of the Philadelphia street railways carried over 90,000 people to the Centennial grounds on opening day, and another about 60,000.

Samuel Kurtz, for thirty-two years a locomotive engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad, was killed near Philadelphia on Wednesday.

The American Protestant Association expect to have ten thousand men in line in the grand parade in Philadelphia, on the 29th of June.

Dennis Head, of Schuylkill county, was killed on Wednesday while engaged at blasting, the explosion occurring before he was prepared for it.

A woman engaged in washing clothes on the bank of the canal, near Easton, became dizzy, fell in and was drowned before assistance could reach her.

An assessor from one of the middle townships of Montgomery county, returns two female taxables in his district, and gives their occupation as blacksmiths.

Mrs. Catharine Jacobs, born in Philadelphia February 14, 1777, died at Norristown on Wednesday evening. She enjoyed good health until within a year before her death.

The body of Peter A. Abel, the theatrical manager who committed suicide in Philadelphia about two weeks ago, was found in the river near Girard avenue bridge, on the 11th inst.

A boiler in the engine house attached to the Indian Ridge colliery, at Shenandoah, Schuylkill county, exploded on Monday morning. J. E. Loughlin was fatally wounded by a flying fragment.

Thomas M. Potts, Jr., of Warwick, Chester county, has a large number of dairy cows, from which he makes an average of three-fourth pounds of butter per week. Being fed on hay, this is a favorable showing.

The Erie *Dispatch* man is on the warpath after the Intelligent Compositor. The editor has "no use for the intelligent compositates," which the Int. Comp. translated to the reading public, "he prodded quinces and potatoes."

The one hundred and twenty-ninth annual meeting of the German Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania and adjacent States will be held in Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading, beginning on Trinity Sunday, June 11, 1876.

John Sullivan, at Morrison, Bare & Co.'s paper mill, Roaring Spring, Blair county, accidentally ran a chisel into his abdomen on the morning of the 11th inst., and died in twenty minutes. The deceased leaves a wife and three children to mourn their loss.

The barn of Richard Fryermuth, between Boyertown and Earlville, was burned on Tuesday night. Four horses, four mules fifteen cows and a colt perished in the flames. Nothing was known of the origin of Mr. Fryermuth or his family until they awoke the next morning.

While Mrs. Reuben Foot, of Delaware township, Mercer county, was sweeping her room on a recent morning, she struck a gun standing in one corner, and in falling it was discharged, the ball entering Mrs. F.'s breast and passing through her lungs. She died two hours later.

The Butler *Citizen* says: Rev. William White, who for nearly forty years has been pastor of St. Peter's Episcopal Church of this borough, preached his farewell sermon and handed in his resignation as pastor of the church last Sabbath. He will continue to read service in the church until his successor is appointed.

At Barto station, the terminus of the Colebrookdale Railroad, a tree was felled; in its descent it struck another, a large hickory, from which it split a slab four inches wide, one inch thick and thirty-three feet long; the inner portion of which was as smooth as if it had been planed. There was no limb on the hickory from at the point where the splinter or slab started.

An Allentown couple got married on credit a few days ago. They called on a clergyman and had the matrimonial knot tied. When this was done the happy husband informed the expectant priest that he had no money to give him for his invaluable services, and that he (the minister) would have to trust him until the condition of his exchequer was improved. The clergyman, who doubtless realizes the truth of the assertion that thanks will not keep the pot boiling, finding that he had been victimized, made a virtue of necessity and blandly informed the newly made husband that he would not trust him.

Dr. William Pepper, medical director of the Centennial Commission, has issued a circular calling attention to the mortality in the great cities of the world for several years past. It shows an average yearly death rate per 1,000 persons in Vienna of 31 42; in New York of 29.93; in Berlin of 29.91; in London of 23.33; in Paris of 23.06, and in Philadelphia of 22.27; thus proving Philadelphia to be the most healthful of all. In 1874 the death rate in that city was only 19.30 per thousand. This favorable result is attributed to the abundant water supply and the opportunities given to all the people for the enjoyment of pure air in Fairmount and other parks. The comparative evenness of temperature is also conducive to health and long life. The moral of the statement is that strangers can visit Philadelphia during the summer with entire safety, which will be further secured this year by unusual sanitary precautions.

Here is flat revolt in the inner citadel. The New York *Express*, in a significant double-leaded editorial, declares against Governor Tilden. It says peremptorily that New York has no claims for the nomination this year, and that common courtesy toward other States should prevent the presentation of any. For this reason Governor Tilden's title to consideration as the only reform candidate, says that he was not the first choice of the convention that nominated him in 1874, that he lost his usefulness in 1875 by getting Presidency on the brain, that he controlled the convention absolutely, but allowed the Democratic majority to run down 40,000 from the previous year, and that he is not entitled, on the strength of this performance, to set aside and crowd out prominent Democrats in the State, or to form a purely personal party. On these points the *Express* invites opinion from the Democratic country press. Altogether this looks as if John Kelly were not entirely placated.

THE CENTENNIAL.

A Further Change in Policy--The Fifty Cent Rule Abolished—The Gates Closed Yesterday—What the "Commercial's" Correspondent Thinks—No Further Reduction of Fare on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

PHILADELPHIA, May 11.—It is estimated that up to the time of closing the Exposition last evening 250,000 people had passed in at the gates. No exact count can be made as the registering arrangements were not complete, and thousands entered without registry. In the city the excitement and jollification were kept up all night, and Philadelphia wore such an aspect of liveliness and gayety as has heretofore seemed impossible.

The principal social feature of the event last evening was the reception at the residence of Mr. George W. Childs. The guests included the President and Mrs. Grant, Cabinet members, several Senators and Governors, Chief Justice Waite, Generals Sherman, Sheridan and Hancock, four or five Admirals, Mayors of half a dozen cities, and a great number of foreign dignitaries. Among these were Dom Pedro, Emperor of Brazil, with the Empress; Sir Edward Thornton, British Minister, and nearly all the Centennial Commissioners from foreign countries. Various other receptions took place during the evening.

To day the excitement and enthusiasm continue in full force. The display of flags and decorations on all the streets is boundless, and a continuous throng of visitors are passing into the Exposition. The opening of the Exposition may be declared a great and unequivocal success.

PHILADELPHIA, May 11, 3 P. M.—This evening Sir Edward Thornton will give a reception to a distinguished party at George's Hall. Two hundred guests are expected.

President Grant and the Washington officials leave for the Capital to-morrow.

The Emperor and Empress of Brazil are on a visit to Wilmington to day, and leave for New York to-morrow.

The counting of the receipts and registers at the gates of the Exposition is now going on; and although far from complete, already shows an attendance of 290,000 on the grounds yesterday.

PHILADELPHIA, May 11, 11:30 P. M.—Sir Edward Thornton, special commissioner from Great Britain to the Centennial Exhibition, gave a grand dinner to-night at St. George's Hall. There were one hundred and sixty-nine invitations. The room was tastefully decorated. At one end was a full length portrait of Queen Victoria; on either side American and British flags; the orchestra at the opposite end of the room was profusely decorated with flags of all nations, those of England and America being gracefully intertwined. Among the most prominent of the guests were Dom Pedro, President Grant, Secretaries Fish, Robeson, Chandler and Taft, Attorney General Pierrepont, Chief Justice Waite, ex-Speaker Blaine, Chief Justice Waite, ex-Speaker Blaine, Chief Justice Waite, Senators Hamlin, Randall and Kelley, Professors Baird and Henry, Senator Ferry, General Hawley, President of the Centennial Commission, Samuel Ward, of New York; Colonel Thomas A. Scott, Hon. Elijah Ward, of New York; ex-Governor Bigler and ex-Mayor Fox. The Diplomatic Corps were represented by Chiefs, Deputies and Commissioners from their respective Governments and British Consul Archibald. The President and more prominent guests, with Dom Pedro, were at the head of the principal table. The three tables, extending the entire length of the hall, were handsomely decorated with flowers. After the dinner was over, Sir Edward alluded to the President, twice elected, as having presided over the ceremony of inaugurating this yesterday, and hoped England's having contributed her mite to the Exposition. There was only a rivalry of the arts of peace between the two countries. He wished the company to drink the health of the President of the United States. This was done, and the band played "The Star Spangled Banner" amid the applause of the assembled guests. The President then thanked Sir Edward for his kind allusion to his countrymen. He knew